

Cordovez urges traditional Afghan process
PESHAWAR (R) — United Nations envoy Diego Cordovez said Sunday only Afghanistan's traditional decision-making processes, such as a grand assembly, could bring peace and stable government to the country. Speaking to Afghan refugees at a camp in north-west Pakistan a few kilometers from the Afghan border, he said that as Soviet troops left the country all sides in the nine-year conflict had to act urgently. "Use and rely on your traditions," he declared. "They have served you well in the past. They have allowed you to solve all the crises that you have had in your history and this is perhaps your worst crisis." Traditionally, important issues in Afghanistan have been debated at an assembly, or *Loya Jirga*, where several hundred tribal chiefs and other prominent Afghans reach a joint decision. Cordovez told about 200 refugees in sweltering heat at the Kaccha Garhi camp outside Peshawar that 30,000 of more than 100,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan had already left. In an apparent appeal over the heads of guerrilla groups opposed to his mission, Cordovez said: "By Aug. 15 half of the troops will be out and the whole Afghan countryside will be in your hands, and you will then be able to decide by yourselves what you want to do with your own country."

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Sheikh Sabah arrives in Baghdad
BAGHDAD (R) — Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah arrived in Baghdad Sunday and met President Saddam Hussein to convey a message from the emir of Kuwait. Baghdad Television said Hussein for recent Iraqi victories against Iran and also dealt with other issues aimed at trying to help stop fighting between Palestinian factions in Beirut refugee camps. Sheikh Sabah will also visit Damascus and Amman to deliver messages from the emir, current chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, on fighting in the camps that has killed scores of Palestinians in the past three months. Sheikh Sabah told the Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) that the messages to Jordan and Iraq deal with bilateral relations and the "special relationship" binding Kuwait with the two countries. The message to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad dealt with "developments in Lebanon and Palestinian events," he added. The emir received a message from the Palestine Liberation Organisation the previous day urging Arab heads of state to intervene to end the Beirut fighting.

AROUND THE WORLD...

7 killed in W. German air crash

GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN, West Germany (AP) — A West German army helicopter slammed into a cliff and exploded in a mountainous area Sunday, killing at least seven people, officials said. Army rescue teams were at the crash site near the Bavarian resort community of Garmisch-Partenkirchen. Nine people, including West German soldiers and civilians, were aboard the helicopter when it crashed in heavy fog, police said. Police said seven bodies had been found, and rescuers were looking for the two other people who had been aboard the helicopter. However, Hessische Rundfunk Radio in Frankfurt reported that 13 people were on board the helicopter and that all were probably dead.

Egyptian premier to visit Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki is due here Tuesday for talks on the Gulf war and bilateral relations, an Egyptian embassy spokesman said Sunday. The diplomat said Sedki will lead the Egyptian side to a meeting of the Higher Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation, due to meet here July 5-7.

TWA flight delayed by bomb scare

CAIRO (AP) — A TWA jetliner bound for New York returned to Cairo airport after taking off Sunday because a telephone caller claimed there was a bomb on board, an airport official said. The official said the Tri-Star returned to the air at 1 p.m. (1000 GMT). 5½ hours later, after the plane was evacuated and its passengers and their luggage searched, no bomb was found. He said someone called minutes after the plane took off at 7:30 a.m. (0430 GMT) for Paris en route to New York. The anonymous caller said there was a bomb on the plane and hung up.

Lange undergoes surgery

WELLINGTON (AP) — New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange was admitted to a hospital Saturday after suffering chest pains and had a lesion removed from a coronary artery, said a statement issued by his office Sunday. Lange has been diagnosed as suffering from angina, said his press officer, Mike Wickstead. Doctors said Sunday that Lange's condition was comfortable, but that he was likely to remain in the hospital for several days.

Li hopes Soviets will remove summit hurdle

PEKING (R) — China hopes the Soviet Union will set the stage for a Sino-Soviet summit by urging Vietnam to withdraw from Kampuchea, soon, Chinese Premier Li Peng said Sunday. The official New China News Agency quoted him as telling Japanese journalists that Kampuchea was still the main obstacle to a normalisation of relations between the two Communist countries (See Kampuchea story on page 8).

Kuwait blames Bangkok security for hijack

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait said Sunday lax security at Bangkok airport was to blame for the hijacking of one of its airliners in April, in which two Kuwaiti passengers were killed. "The deterioration in the state of security at Bangkok airport was the direct and principal cause that led to the incident," Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid Abdul Aziz Al Rashid told reporters.

Israeli nurses walk off the job

TEL AVIV (AP) — About 3,000 nurses walked off the job Sunday and took a "collective vacation" to protest a government health plan they say will increase the burden on already under-staffed hospitals. Also Sunday, 900 workers of Magen David Adom — Israel's equivalent of the Red Cross — shut down services after failing to receive June paychecks, and physicians who have been staging short-term strikes for several months closed out-patient clinics and performed only emergency surgery.

Catholics ignore Pope's warning

LONDON (R) — Roman Catholic followers of rebel French Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre ignored the Pope's warning of excommunication and flocked to a small Catholic church in London in pouring rain to hear a mass conducted in Latin Sunday. The Vatican excommunicated Lefebvre after he defied Pope John Paul by consecrating four bishops without Vatican approval in Switzerland Friday, creating the first schism in the Catholic church this century. The Pope warned some 100,000 followers of Lefebvre throughout the world Saturday that they too risked excommunication if they continued to adhere to his movement.

Grosz praises Soviet conference

BUDAPEST (AP) — Hungarian Communist leader Karoly Grosz, preparing to go to Moscow on a brief visit, said a recent Soviet Communist Party conference was of particular importance for the reform of socialism, the official MTI news agency reported Sunday. Addressing a meeting of leading Hungarian company managers Saturday, Grosz said he felt "confident before the trip... as the process taking place in the Soviet Union is in many respects identical with what happens in Hungary." The Hungarian leader, who also is premier, was to leave Budapest Monday for a scheduled meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev Tuesday.

Wimbledon final suspended after 5 games

LONDON (R) — Former champion Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg swapped service breaks before rain that had delayed the Wimbledon men's singles final Sunday for more than four hours returned after just 22 minutes' play. Edberg, who returned serve sublimely to grab the early initiative, was leading 3-2. Becker having just broken the third seed to love in the fifth game to redress the balance. With the rain falling steadily, the organisers decided no further play would be possible and Becker, champion here in 1985 and 1986, and Edberg, in his first Wimbledon singles final, were told to return Monday to resume their battle for the £165,000 (\$297,000) winner's prize.

Soviets report over 50 hijack bids

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union had more than 50 attempted aircraft hijackings in the past 15 years, a senior aviation official said Sunday, calling for tougher security measures. "The majority of them were successfully nipped in the bud, thanks largely to action by the crew in the air and special services on the ground," he said. Thousands of firearms and explosives were confiscated from passengers every year but some still escaped security checks, Deputy Aviation Minister Mikhail Timofeyev told the trade union newspaper Trud.

Cuba blames Pretoria for snags in talks

LISBON (R) — Cuba's chief negotiator at four-party Angolan peace talks said Sunday that South Africa was jeopardising the negotiations by keeping troops in southern Angola. Jorge Risquet was speaking to reporters on arrival in Lisbon for talks with Portuguese officials on recent international efforts to end the 13-year-old civil war in Angola, a Portuguese colony until 1975.

Assad, Rifai review Mideast situation

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Sunday held talks with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, who also delivered to him a message from His Majesty King Hussein. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the talks, which were attended by Syrian Premier Mahmoud Al Zoubi, dealt with the current situation in the region as well as bilateral relations. Earlier in the day, Rifai held a round of talks with Zoubi on issues of mutual concern to Jordan and Syria, Petra said. The meeting was attended by Syrian Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Salim Yassin and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Yassin Rajjoub. Rifai arrived in Damascus Saturday at the head of a high-level ministerial delegation for meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee. The committee held two rounds of meetings Saturday and resumed discussions Sunday. Sunday's committee meeting was co-chaired by Transport and Communications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan and Yassin. The meeting reviewed the outcome of talks held by sub-committees and means for further developing cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, agriculture, irrigation and telecommunications, Petra said. Diplomats quoted by the AP said cooperation between the two countries in these fields had already "scored unprecedented progress."

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National Speech and Hearing Centre opened

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday inaugurated the National Speech and Hearing Centre which will provide diagnostic and rehabilitation services for people of all ages with various degrees and types of hearing problems. The Queen inspected the different parts of the centre and equipment used to help in the rehabilitation process. Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh made a speech at the inauguration ceremony expressing appreciation to the Queen for attending the ceremony and outlining the importance of the centre. The Health Ministry, which is sponsoring the centre, plans to open branches for the institution in different parts of the Kingdom. Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday familiarises herself with the methods adopted by the newly-opened National Speech and Hearing Centre (Petra photo).

Hamzeh briefed the audience on the development and objectives of the new centre and its plans. She said the centre was established to offer services to nearly 120,000 Jordanian children with hearing problems, all below 15 years of age. The centre is the first of its kind in Jordan because it will comprehensively deal with the problems of those having hearing impediments, she said.

Abu Sharif says peace offer official PLO policy

TUNIS (AP) — Bassam Abu Sharif, chief spokesman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said Sunday his recent Middle East peace proposals were official PLO policy endorsed by Chairman Yasser Arafat, despite some dissenting Palestinian views. In a two-hour interview with the AP in his home near Tunis, Abu Sharif elaborated on proposals he circulated privately among delegates to the Arab summit conference in Algiers last month. The proposals reiterated the PLO's longstanding demand for an independent Palestinian state to be set up by an international peace conference including all the big powers. But, for the first time, the PLO suggested that the future state could be placed under a temporary international mandate to "guide the occupied Palestinian territories to democratic statehood." The document also offered to help ensure Israel's security with a United Nations peacekeeping force to be deployed on the Palestinian side of the future border between the two states. The United States, which refuses to recognise the PLO or deal with it directly, has welcomed the "constructive tone" of Abu Sharif's proposals but demanded an official endorsement of them by Arafat. "I am prepared in my official capacity to meet American officials in Washington to clarify any point in the proposals," said Abu Sharif, Arafat's top political adviser. He said the PLO accepts U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 but cannot do so unconditionally because the resolutions fail to recognise Palestinian national rights. He said Arafat saw and approved the proposals before they were circulated at the Arab summit, but has thus far refrained from publicly endorsing them. He described as "catastrophic" the rejection of his plan by both the Likud and Labour party wings of the Israeli government coalition, and said: "I hope those in decision-making positions in the big powers will realise the meaning of this rejection by the Israeli rulers and the ultimate outcome of such an attitude." At the same time, he praised the "very positive response" from American Jewish leaders in the International Centre for Peace in the Middle East, who described

Reagan describes it as 'defensive action'; Tehran says 298 were aboard downed aircraft

U.S. navy downs Iranian Airbus

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The United States said Sunday one of its warships in the Gulf had shot down an Iranian civilian aircraft by mistake in clashes with Iranian forces and Iran said 298 people were aboard the plane. Iran said U.S. warships hit the Iran Air A-300 Airbus with two missiles during a clash between their forces in the southern Gulf, sending the wreckage crashing into the sea near Hangam Island. Divers had found 100 bodies, it said. "We will not leave the crimes of America unanswered," a Tehran Radio commentary said. In Washington, U.S. President Ronald Reagan said in a statement he was saddened to report "this terrible human tragedy" and that a full investigation would be carried out by the Defence Department. Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said the Iran Air jet was shot down moments after taking off from Iran for Dubai to the United Arab Emirates. Everyone on board was killed after the plane "exploded in the sky," IRNA said. Iranian Television showed pictures of helicopters shooting flames across the crash area and small motor boats moving in to

(Continued on page 5)

Israeli 'excavation' sparks fierce Jerusalem clashes

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Hundreds of Palestinians enraged by Israeli attempts to carry out excavation work in the Haram Al Sharif complex battled Israeli soldiers Sunday and initial reports said at least 15 Palestinians were wounded in the clashes. Islamic leaders condemned the excavation as an illegal attempt to encroach on the Haram Al Sharif, site of the Al Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques. White clouds of tear-gas hung over the Biblical Via Dolorosa and other parts of Jerusalem's walled Old City as the battle raged for about two hours. At least 15 Palestinians were injured, including eight by tear-gas, five by beatings and two by rubber bullets, said officials at Jerusalem's Mukassas hospital. Several police officers were hit by rocks, police officials said. Police said seven Palestinians were arrested, and authorities closed most schools in Arab Jerusalem after the incident. Among the injured were Abu Feras Ashaya — director of the Waqf (Islamic trust), which owns the area — and Dr. Amin Khatib, a member of the Islamic High Council. Demonstrations erupted about 7 a.m. when diggers from Israel's religious affairs ministry, guarded by soldiers and border police, began to excavate what was described as a second century B.C. water tunnel at one of several entrances to Haram Al Sharif. Members of the Waqf tried to prevent workers from carrying on the dig and protesters flocked to the adjacent Via Dolorosa after being summoned by Muslim leaders from mosque loudspeakers, Palestinians and Israelis said. "Without notifying us, a group of fanatic Jews... claimed they wanted to dig a hole to repair the water tunnel," Ashaya told Reuters. "I asked if they had permission. I said, show us. They had no papers." Dozens of Palestinians, some of them masked, dashed from behind street corners to throw rocks. Young women were also seen hurling stones at police, who gave chase firing rubber bullets and tear-gas. An Arab girl about six years old was seen with her flower-print dress covered with blood. Witnesses said she was hit with a rubber bullet. The narrow streets were smoky with tear-gas and littered with stones, chunks of concrete and small and spent tear-gas grenades. A tyre burned in one alley, and several tourists seemed confused as they were ordered by police to leave. The protest was one of the most widespread and violent in Arab Jerusalem since the Palestinian uprising started nearly seven months ago. At least 225 Palestinians have died in the uprising. The protests also spread to other parts of Arab Jerusalem, where police reported several stoning incidents. Khatib, deputy head of the Islamic High Council which administers the sites, said Muslims religious officials were aware of plans for the dig, but opposed the operation. "All the time we told them we are against it," Khatib told the AP. "It (the dig) is at the main entrance to the mosques and will prevent Muslims from reaching them."

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U.S. delegation urges halt of aid to Israel

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — A human rights delegation of 16 Americans called on the United States Sunday to cut off military aid to Israel, saying the Zionist state of practising "sustained systematic human rights abuses in the occupied territories." The visitors, including two nurses, two ministers and several students and journalists, were ending a two-week stay as houseguests of Palestinians in the occupied territories. "The Palestinian people are victims of institutionalised oppression," said the group's summarising statement. "Since the continued Israeli occupation is heavily dependent on U.S. military aid... (we) call for an end to all U.S. military aid to Israel." The Americans, from 13 states and Washington D.C., cited beating by soldiers "often without provocation," indiscriminate shooting with both rubber and live bullets, and extensive use of tear-gas. The delegation also said soldiers abduct Arab children and torture prisoners. The American group also said Palestinian villages were regularly put under curfew — meaning residents must stay in their homes — for up to 90 days. The only Israelis who addressed the group during the two-week stay were representatives of the left-wing Citizens Rights Movement party and of conscientious objectors who have refused to serve as reservist soldiers in the occupied territories. Alan Greenbaum, a registered nurse from Seattle and one of three Jewish Americans in the visiting delegation, said he was reluctant to tell his parents he made the trip because they would consider him a "traitor." "I know when I go back, a lot of Jews won't want to hear what I have to say," said Greenbaum, who lived with a Palestinian family in the Gaza Strip town of Rafah for five days and spent a second week in the West Bank town of Halhoul. He added, "If the Israelis really want this occupation, let them suffer and be forced to reduce their standard of living, instead of having the United States fund it. The U.S. is making it easy for Israel to have its cake and eat it too."

Indian prime minister visits Jordan next week

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times
AMMAN — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is scheduled to pay an official visit to Jordan during the second week of July. It marks the first-ever visit to the Kingdom by an Indian prime minister. Informed sources said the exact dates for the visit were being finalised and would be announced soon. They expected the visit to begin around July 11. Gandhi, who is expected to be accompanied by his wife Sonia and a high-level delegation, is making the visit in response to an invitation by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor who visited India in September 1986. The Arab-Israeli conflict, the almost eight-year-old Iran-Iraq war, the situation in Afghanistan and bilateral relations are expected to be the central theme of discussions between the King and Gandhi. Some sources said India's relations with Pakistan could also come up for discussion with the focus on a possible Jordanian role in improving New Delhi-Islamabad ties. The sources noted that Jordan has traditionally strong links with Pakistan. Gandhi is also expected to renew India's call for an immediate end to the Gulf war and a negotiated settlement of the conflict. In addition, issues of common interest related to the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations are also on the agenda, the sources said. On the political level, Gandhi is expected to reaffirm India's traditional support for the Arab cause in the Arab-Israeli conflict and his country's endorsement of the Arab call for an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties involved in the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Gandhi visited Syria in early June and emphasised India's stand that a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict should be based on Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967 and establishment of an independent Palestinian state. On the bilateral level, the King and the Indian leader, who succeeded his mother as prime minister in November 1984, will discuss means to increase cooperation and trade links. India, the largest importer from Jordan, bought Jordanian rock phosphates and muriate of potash worth \$80 million in 1987 and is expected to maintain the same level this year. According to reports in the Indian press, New Delhi did not cut down its imports from Jordan while it drastically reduced purchases of fertiliser-related products from elsewhere in the Arab World. The reports also indicate that India is willing to increase its imports from Jordan provided the Kingdom reciprocates by boosting purchases from India or through awarding contracts for projects. A private sector Indian company has been given a \$104 million contract to build part of a new 540-kilometre Aqaba-Iraq road. Work is progressing on the project. The new interchanges at the Ministry of Interior Circle and Sports City were built by another Indian firm at a cost about JD 5 million. During the scheduled talks between trade officials from both sides as part of Gandhi's visit, India is expected to renew its offer to increase imports from Jordan and seek to boost Jordanian exports to Jordan which amounted to less than \$4 million in 1987. According to Indian newspaper reports, labour-related issues will figure high in the discussion. Indian statistics indicate that about 2,800 Indians are employed in various sectors in Jordan. Another issue is expected to be increased seats in Indian universities for Jordanian students. A rough estimate indicates that there are more than 1,200 Jordanian students currently studying in Indian universities and technical colleges. The Indian prime minister's trip to Jordan is part of a four-state visit which will take him to Turkey, Spain and Yugoslavia. The previous highest-level visit to Jordan by an Indian government leader was in 1983 when then-Vice-President Mohammad Hidayatullah paid a brief visit to the Kingdom.



Rajiv Gandhi

an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties involved in the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation

8th Arab Children's Congress ends Queen Noor receives children

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday received the Arab Children taking part in the 8th Arab Children's Congress, which concluded here Sunday.

One of the children delivered a speech, on behalf of the whole group, thanking Queen Noor for her keen interest in the congress and her adoption of the idea of this yearly event. He said that the conference provides an opportunity for the children to know their Arab homeland and to exchange information, in addition to its contribution to bolstering relations and understanding among Arab children.

Children from Algeria, Egypt and Syria performed artistic per-



Her Majesty Queen Noor receives the children participating in the 8th Arab Children's Congress in Amman Sunday (Petra photo)

Industrialisation talks: Timely and important

The following is the full text of Planning Minister Taher Kanaan's opening speech to the conference on "Industrialisation of Jordan: Obstacles and Achievements" which ended Sunday:

It is indeed a great honour to be given this wonderful opportunity to address this very important conference and to participate in its deliberations. The subject: "Industrialisation of Jordan," is timely, as it coincides with a delicate period in our country's economic progress, a period of important changes in the external regional environment, interacting with equally important developments in the indigenous economic and social variables.

It is not simply that so many things in 1988 are different from what they were ten years earlier in 1978, or twenty years earlier, in 1968. Rather, it is that such difference is affecting the entire configuration of the relevant economic factors.

To illustrate such changing configuration, it is enough to point out some positive changes and some negative ones:

On the credit side, we now have:

(First), a large and rapidly increasing stock of educated manpower.

(Second), a fairly advanced basic infrastructure in transport, telecommunications and related facilities and services.

(Finally), an institutional environment characterised by a high degree of enlightenment, stability and continuity.

On the debit side, we note that the skills of our educated manpower do not match the jobs available or needed; the completion of major public investments in infrastructure and in the resource-based industries of phosphates, potash, and fertilisers, has now brought into sharp contrast the inadequacy and meagre state of private investment. To complete the symmetry with the credit side, the institutional environment appears now to be heavy with regulations, procedures and practices that most probably are impeding private initiative, and at the same time lacking in certain institutions and institutional arrangements that are essential for the healthy functioning of a small open economy such as ours.

Under the circumstances, reassessment of the type that will be attempted in this conference is topical and timely, and will contribute to the information needed to weigh the available trade-offs and to make the difficult choices among the feasible policy options.

Choosing the right strategy for industrial development is one such difficult choice which this conference will surely shed much illumination and light upon.

Without prejudging the outcome of your deliberations, it appears to me that development experience in the last two decades, together with the technological revolution over the same period, have destroyed many aspects of conventional wisdom on the appropriate strategies of industrial development.

One such aspect of conventional wisdom is that there are set stages of industrial development that a country must pass through or recapitulate in its own development in emulation of the stages that advanced countries had passed through in their histories.

In fact, the current high portability of technology and the unconstrained trade in services, make the path to industrial development of even a young and upcoming country, something which could be custom-made to suit the comparative advantages of such country.

Another aspect of conventional wisdom which now appear to consist largely of misplaced emphasis, is the view that industrialisation is confined to and measured by growth of the manufacturing sector and the consequent subordination of growth in agriculture and the services sectors. In fact, industrialisation in its broad sense would include the application of modern technology and efficient management to agricultural and service production as much as to manufacturing. What matters is to design an overall development strategy to make optimal use of the country's comparative advantage at a given period in time.

The scarcity of capital, the high growth rate of manpower, and the abundance of educated manpower, suggest an industrial strategy which emphasises labour and technology-intensive activities. The smallness of the domestic market and the scarcity of foreign exchange suggest in addition an outward looking export-promoting strategy, especially that essential import-replacing light manufacturing have already been accomplished and opportunities in such import-substitution are vanishing. In all respects, the role of private initiative and private investment should be paramount in any such strategy.

Accordingly, it is now felt that heavy protection and quantitative restrictions have served their purpose in the past import-substitution phase, and that it is now time for a thorough re-appraisal to remove all protective measures that bias the system against exports.

Another set of policies which now appear to have served their purpose are those which rely on discretionary government decisions and intervention instead of reliance on automatic regulation and market forces.

A conspicuous example of these is the cumbersome system of industrial licensing and the industrial investment approval process.

With regard to the direct encouragement of private initiative and foreign private investment, there are, to be sure, adequate or more than adequate tax and non-tax encouragements and concessions. Still, it is felt that a smaller package of concessions could be adequate provided that the procedures and regulations for their application become simpler and more automatic.

The direct encouragement of private enterprise, specifically when directed towards export-oriented production, is envisaged to include major institutional improvements to establish effective mechanisms and institutions for export marketing and promotion, export finance, and export credit guarantees.

Special attention is accorded to encouragement of foreign investment taking the form of joint ventures that embody transfer of know-how and technology. His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, has graced with his personal patronage missions and seminars in England, Japan, Singapore, India and the U.S.A. with the purpose of introducing Jordanian and Jordanian businessmen to their counterparts in those foreign countries.

There is, however, an important area of indirect encouragement to the industrial potential of Jordan which has recently been given government attention and commensurate financial resources. This is the area of professional services supportive of industrial performance. The government has identified four private subsectors that provide such support; these are:

— accounting and auditing,

— information systems design and management,

— industrial design and management,

— market research, marketing and advertising.

Friends and Colleagues,

These remarks should make it obvious that your conference is not only timely, but of immediate relevance to government deliberations that are currently underway to reshape industrial strategy and related policies. My colleagues in the government and myself will be looking forward to benefit from the constructive outcome of your own deliberations.

formances and folkloric dances, while children from the Jordan Music Conservatory played music for the guests while a group from Haya Arts Centre performed folkloric dances and Jordanian folkloric dances.

At the end of the meeting, all children sang a song entitled "One Homeland."

The meeting was attended by Royal Court Secretary General Bassam Al Saket and a number of cultural attaches to Jordan.

Earlier in the day participants in the Eighth Arab Children's Congress attended a symposium entitled "Arab Children Capable of Giving and Participating" to discuss questions of concern to children in the Arab World.

The symposium, held here upon the end of the week-long congress, which was hosted by Nour Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), called on Arab states to adopt the idea of the congress and to host Arab children on a rotational basis every year.

A statement at the final session said that the idea of holding the

congress in different Arab countries is designed to augment the children's knowledge about their nation and promote their culture.

The symposium urged Arab organisations to give due consideration and more concern over children's issues and pave the way for their future participation in shouldering responsibility.

In their statement, the participants sent their greetings to the children of the occupied Arab territories who are facing the Israeli troops and are subjected to Israeli atrocities.

They said that everything should be done to preserve Arab traditions, heritage and culture, and efforts should be made to avoid all ideologies that contradict with Arab norms.

The statement said that Arab children should have independence in taking decisions and in participating in matters pertaining to their studies, families and daily lives.

The children who spent several days in Jordan carrying out a

NHF's programme of cultural activities and visits, sent a cable of appreciation and gratitude to Her Majesty Queen Noor for the hospitality accorded to them and the facilities that made their stay a success.

The children also wished NHF all success in its endeavours to serve Arab children and Arab organisations.

At the final session, awards and diplomas were distributed to the children and their supervisors while the children presented token gifts to NHF in commemoration of their visit to Jordan.

The Eighth Arab Children's Congress opened here last Monday with the participation of groups from 17 Arab countries.

The children's programme included visits to archaeological and historic sites, agricultural and industrial projects and other places of interest.

They also took part in cultural and recreational activities and visited children's clubs and Jordanian families.

Princess Basma receives award



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma receives a delegation from the Amman Inerwheel club Sunday (Petra photo)

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Sunday received the shield of the Amman Inerwheel Club in recognition of her distinguished role in social and voluntary societies.

The shield was presented by the club's president, in Amman Umama Sobhi Al Tibi who delivered a brief speech voicing the club's appreciation of the Princess's efforts.

The shield, Tibi said, is a token expression of the club's "recognition of and pride in Princess Basma's patronage of the club's social and voluntary activities to serve the orphans, the sick, the disabled and the needy."

The club, which was established 20 years ago, groups 85 members, all dedicated to serving the local community in social and voluntary fields.

Jordan to build 40,000 housing units every year — Zawaideh

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Housing Corporation and the Ministry of Planning have prepared a national housing strategy for Jordan which calls for the construction of 40,000 housing units in the Kingdom every year with the purpose of meeting the country's growing demand for housing specially for low-income families, according to Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaideh.

The housing strategy was drawn up by an 11-member team of specialists from the two departments following the World Bank's refusal to finance the study except under its own terms, and with the help of an American firm, Zawaideh said in an interview with Al Dustour Arabic daily.

The study, which took the team three years to prepare, will now be referred to the cabinet for endorsement probably during July, Zawaideh said.

The strategy calls for the construction of units ranging between 72 and 125 square metres in areas for low income citizens who earn less than JD 120 a month, and also for selling citizens plots of land of 200 square metres for housing projects that would be financed on easy terms by the Housing Corporation and the Housing Bank, Zawaideh explained.

But, he said, that the corporation does not intend to carry out an integrated housing estate like that of Abu Nusair, north west of Amman, in view of the high cost and risk involved.

Zawaideh said that the high income families do not need government-supported housing projects in light of a survey conducted in 1985 which showed that 5,200 flats in western Amman and suitable for high-income families still lie vacant.

Referring to the Abu Nusair Housing Estate, Zawaideh said it was built by a Chinese firm and the Lebanese Sojex firm, but the latter went broke and defaulted; and has a debt ranging between JD 5-6 million to the housing corporation.

In accordance with government directives, beneficiaries now living in the Abu Nusair Housing Estate were exempt from paying the JD 9.5 million worth of additional services, such as central heating, which is to be shouldered by the treasury and thus will only pay the cost of the units spread over up to 30 years at a five per cent interest rate, Zawaideh said.

The Housing Corporation, Zawaideh noted, is indebted to the Housing Bank, the Central Bank of Jordan and the Social Security Corporation by at least JD 83 million, and is paying interest and services on the loans at the rate of five per cent.

The government has formed a committee from the Ministry of Finance and the Budget Department to raise JD 30 million as a grant to the Housing Corporation to help it carry on its operations.

"It is hoped that the new fund will receive government endorsement soon," Zawaideh said.

Housing projects in other towns

Asked on housing projects in other parts of the country, Zawaideh said the Housing Corporation has built units in Aqaba, Tafleh, Mafrqa and Ajloun but only in Aqaba did the corporation manage to sell all the housing units.

Zawaideh, who is also minister of public works, gave details about road projects in Jordan and dwell in particular on the Am-mao-Dead-Sea-Road which is being carried out with partial financing from the United States Agency for International Development USAID.

But although the country has 16,000 engineers and architects, he said, "none of them has been able to advise the ministry on the sound course of a stretch of road that passes near a place where landslides occurred in 1963, so that the danger can be avoided on the new highway."

The Ministry of Public Works now employs 500 engineers, some of them is specialised in bridge building or soil analysis, the minister said.

According to Zawaideh, the Ministry of Public Works can easily lay out 207 engineers who were appointed this year without any negative effects on the ministry's projects, which means that the ministry has a surplus of these engineers.

"Indeed the ministry offered training to 600 of the newly graduated engineers and spent on their training from the ministry's JD 11 million budget on condition that they seek employment somewhere else after the training period," Zawaideh noted.

He said: "Not one of them was able to find a job and all demanded that the ministry employ them on its projects."

The country has 1,350 engineers who graduated after 1985 and many of them are unemployed, the minister said. "The Civil Service Commission has 35,000 applications from job seekers many of them engineers, doctors and other university graduates."

In the interview, the minister referred to the interchanges built recently at the Interior Ministry Circle and the Sports City area and said that they were financed by the World Bank which stipulated that a foreign company implement the project.

Both these projects and the Jaffer-Azraq Road were awarded to an Indian company in a bid to adjust the balance of trade with India, which is now in favour of Jordan.

Nearly 10 per cent of the cost of the projects is being paid in the form of phosphate, the minister added.

Referring to the Amman Queen Alia International Airport Highway, Zawaideh said that the Ministry of Public Works discovered a fault in the left side of the road, and had to embark on repairing it, employing new techniques to ensure durability.

Speaker calls for fair U.S. Mideast policy

Lawzi voices support for disarmament

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi Sunday expressed Jordan's support for the United States and the Soviet Union in their efforts to reduce nuclear missiles and curb the threat of nuclear holocaust.

Addressing a delegation representing staff and students from American universities now on a visit to Jordan, Lawzi said His Majesty King Hussein has been extending support to all international efforts to end nuclear arms race and the militarisation of space.

Lawzi called on the U.S. to be fair in its dealings with countries of the Middle East and "to show respect to the principles of democracy in its capacity as the leader of the free world, and to realise that Israel's present policies is creating a grave danger not only for the Middle East alone but to world peace and security."

"Over the past 21 years, Jordan has been exerting all possible efforts to establish peace and to put an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict in implementation of U.N. principles and resolutions, Lawzi said.

He said the Arab World which explicitly voiced its desire to achieve peace in the region at the Fez Arab summit in 1982, "believes that the proposed international conference presents the most visible forum for a just and durable peace that would find a just solution for the Palestine problem."

"Israel's intransigent position remains a stumbling block in the path of peace and serves as an

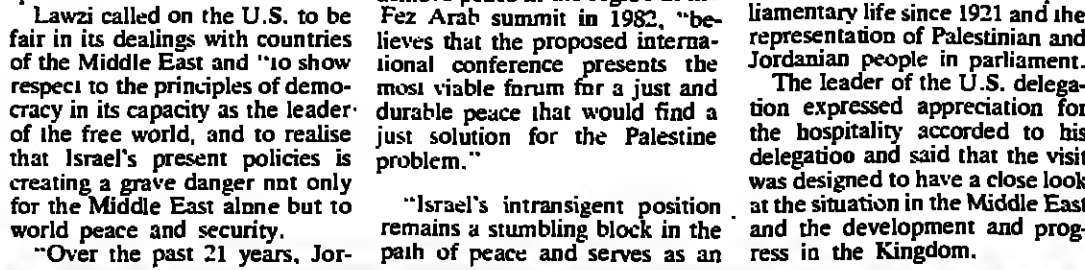
obstacle to all efforts to end the Arab-Israeli conflict," Lawzi noted.

He said that the delegation's visit to Jordan coincides with the uprising in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip where the Arab population is subjected to Israel's repressive rule.

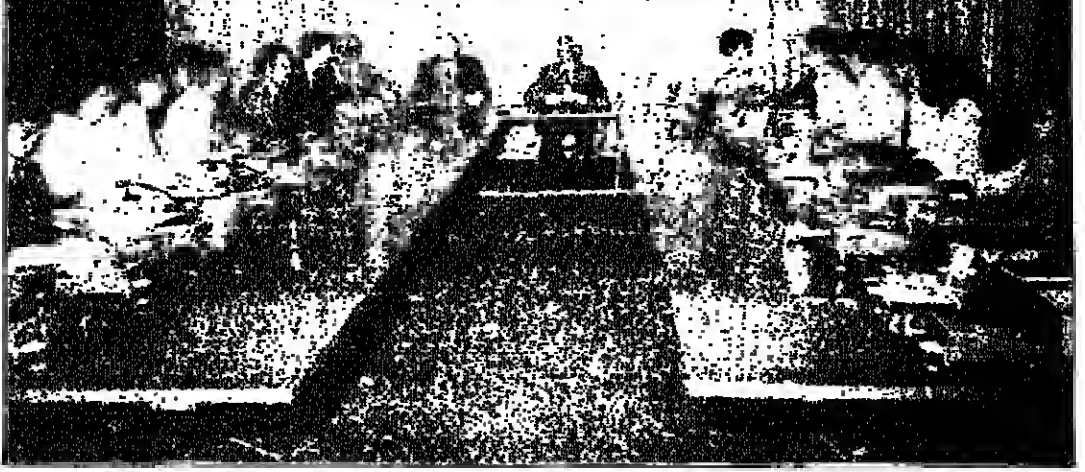
He called on the delegation members to investigate the facts about the present situation in the Middle East and Israel's violations of human rights and all international principles.

Lawzi outlined Jordan's parliamentary life since 1921 and the representation of Palestinian and Jordanian people in parliament.

The leader of the U.S. delegation expressed appreciation for the hospitality accorded to his delegation and said that the visit was designed to have a close look at the situation in the Middle East and the development and progress in the Kingdom.



Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi receives a group of students from American universities in Amman Sunday (Petra photo)



Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi receives a group of students from American universities in Amman Sunday (Petra photo)



UROUBA SCHOOL GRADUATION: Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Sunday attended the graduation ceremony of the Urouba Secondary School for Girls, which was held at Al Hussein Youth City Palace of Culture, and presented the graduates with their certificates.

RJ implements ban on smoking

AMMAN (R) — Jordan's national carrier has become the first Middle Eastern airline to introduce a smoking ban on some short flights, a Royal Jordanian spokesman said Sunday.

Munib Toukan, vice-president for public relations, told Reuters

the company had forbidden smoking on flights to Damascus and Jordan's Red Sea port of Aqaba from July 1.

"Our next step will be to include a couple more short destinations on our anti-smoking campaign after assessing passen-

ger feedback," Toukan said. "Our employees have responded positively."

Royal Jordanian already allocates 75 per cent of seats on its fleet of 19 aircraft to non-smokers.

U.K. travel agents' decision to meet in Jerusalem creates controversy

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Political controversy is entering the world of British tourism and Jordanian travel agents have inadvertently become involved. The source of controversy is the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) decision to hold their annual meeting in Jerusalem this November.

According to Munir Nassar of the International Traders, one of the leading travel agencies in Jordan, the controversy rose in view of the current situation in the occupied territories (the uprising) and the worldwide controversy it has created about the legitimacy of Israeli practices against Palestinian citizens.

The more important element behind the debate, which started in England in May, is the logo for the annual convention which was adopted by ABTA. The logo carries the initials of ABTA 1988 with Jerusalem written across a drawing of the Jewish menorah with Israel written under it. Nassar told the Jordan Times "for the first time ever Jerusalem is treated as part of Israel, if the name of the city was Tel Aviv there would have been no controversy."

Nassar added that if the logo did not carry the name of the



The controversial logo adopted by ABTA for the 1988 annual meeting in Jerusalem

country (Israel) there would have been little ground for debate.

According to newspaper clippings from the British Travel Trade Gazette (TTG) made available to the Jordan Times, Palestinian supporters picketed at the ABTA headquarters early in June in protest against the association's planned convention in Israel.

Banners carried by the picketers read: ABTA in Jerusalem, reward for aggressors; Jerusalem, wrong time, wrong place; don't go to Jerusalem while hundreds killed thousands detained and ABTA convention in Jerusalem, a hostile act.

An article published by TTG stated, "Israel is poor choice for convention-survey." The choice of Jerusalem as this year's ABTA

convention failed to get a majority approval from 200 travel agency proprietors and managers in a survey carried by the newspaper.

According to the survey, while 37 per cent thought it was an acceptable destination for the event, 63 per cent considered it a poor location. Out of the 200 surveyed only 25 had ever been to an ABTA convention yet 36 per cent of those thought Israel was a very poor location.

According to Nassar, some travel agents in Jordan have been approached by ABTA members to make plans to use Jordan as a stop over to Jerusalem. Nassar said that travel agents "will not support such proposals, we are set against it and we will not cooperate."

Nassar added that to his knowledge, "quite a few ABTA members are not going to attend."

According to another news clipping in TTG, "Israel underwrites ABTA promotions," ABTA has received a blank cheque for unlimited promotion funds from the Israeli government in June. In the same article a PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) source within the London office of the PLO told ATTG that if ABTA proceeded in its action "both the association and participating members would be placed on the boycott list of the Arab League."

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A day in the life...

SATURDAY, July 2, 1988 may not go down in history as a particularly significant day, though it struck us as a rather good example of all those fires and sentiments which combine to form the national character of our country. If we may be forgiven some flag waving, we would like to note that the following events took place Saturday: The first graduating class of Mu'ta University received its diplomas; two workshops took place on the subject of teaching gifted students; a speech and hearing centre was opened by the Ministry of Health; the Central Bank of Jordan took new steps to deal with lingering problems in the monetary sector; a two-day conference was inaugurated on the subject of industrialisation in Jordan, and the Arab Children's Congress hosted children from 17 Arab states.

We were struck by that combination of events taking place on one day, and we recognise that the common denominator behind these very different events is the endeavour by Jordan to tap its skilled manpower and to meet the human needs of its people.

It is not ironic that we should address the needs of our most gifted students while we simultaneously try to meet the needs of the handicapped, such as the hearing impaired. Or that we graduate our own military officers while simultaneously promoting the economic development of the land by redressing problems in the fields of industry or finance. The long-term wellbeing of Jordan and the people of Jordan will depend very heavily on the quality of the human talent that we can bring to bear upon our challenges, constraints and opportunities. The events of Saturday remind us that we cannot afford to choose our priorities according to a pace that suits our inclination or our resources. Our human and geopolitical reality dictates that we need to strive for competence, and then for excellence, in many fields at the same time.

The challenges that face us are becoming more complex, while global competition in economic and other fields demands a scale of human endeavour and intellectual excellence that we are certainly capable of achieving. We will meet the challenge if we maintain our focus on providing services that respond to human needs across the board, while striking a positive balance between the government's obligation to assure equity in opportunity and the private sector's desire to forge ahead into new fields of creativity and productivity. Such a balance generates days such as Saturday — days which remind us both of how far we have come and of how far we still have to go, but also of the right manner in which to travel.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS



Al Rai: Future defenders

KING Hussein made a speech at the graduation of the first group of students from Mu'ta University Saturday reminding his audience that Jordan was totally committed to the defence of the Arab Nation and that Mu'ta University was serving as a training ground for men who are determined to fight for the Arabs and protect their honour and their rights. The King reminded his Arab Nation that the Jordanian Armed Forces which inherited the mission of the Great Arab Revolt will continue to serve Arab causes with courage, honour and sacrifice. Mu'ta University, as the King said, will remain a great edifice for learning and for training Arabs, providing them with knowledge and military skill essential for the defence of the Arab Nation. The King's speech represented a new pledge by Jordan and its Armed Forces to carry on the struggle for defending Arab rights until victory is achieved. The speech was a pledge by Jordan to confront the challenges and the threats posed to the Arab Nation; and reflected a standing Jordanian policy of maintaining and strengthening solidarity among Arabs and unifying Arab ranks in the face of external aggression.

Al Dustour: In defence of Arab people

KING Hussein has again reiterated Jordan's stand and its commitment to the defence of Arab people in implementation of the principles of the Great Arab Revolt. In his address to the graduates of Mu'ta University, the King said that the new batch of trained youths will now join the Armed Forces in their task to provide protection to the Arab Nation and to serve as a shield in the face of external threats. The King said that the Jordanian Armed Forces had remained as vanguards in defending Arab soil and fighting the enemies of the Arab Nation. These forces, he said, will continue to fight for the Arabs with determination, sacrifice, and honour. In graduating the first batch of students from Mu'ta, the King pledged that Jordanian youths will follow in the footsteps of their forefathers who had launched the struggle to achieve freedom and unity for the Arabs. Indeed, the graduates of Mu'ta, he said, will be the new heroes who will offer sacrifice and display heroism in their defence of the Arab Nation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Graduates to defend Jordan

KING Hussein, who graduated the first batch of students from Mu'ta University Saturday, rekindled memories of the great achievements of the forefathers who led the Arabs in their struggle for freedom and unity. In his address to the graduates, the King said that the forefathers had offered sacrifice and martyrdom in the course of serving Arab causes and in their true commitment to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt. The Jordanian Armed Forces, who the graduates are going to join, have inherited the mission and the principles of that revolt and are determined to offer sacrifice with courage and determination in defence of Arab honour and Arab rights. The King urged the graduates to follow in the footsteps of these forefathers and to benefit from experience and put their learning to good use in their endeavour to serve their nation.

Gulf war advantage swings towards Iraq

By Jeffrey Ulbrich
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A series of stunning victories by Iraq has swung the pendulum of the 8-year-old Iran-Iraq war to Baghdad's side, ending a long period of stagnation and convincing the Iraqis that the bloody conflict now has entered its final phase.

"The situation has improved a lot from an Iraqi standpoint," asserted Iraqi Deputy Foreign Minister Nizar Hamdoun. "Time is not on Iran's side, which was the perception before."

"We think we are in the last phase of the war, a phase where the Iraqis have begun a significant deterioration in their internal affairs — caused by their military defeats."

The string of successful Iraqi military operations began in April with the recapture of the important southern oil terminal at Fao in a 36-hour battle.

That was followed by quick victories in the southern Shalamchah area in May, in only nine hours, and another nine-hour battle that recovered the oil-rich Majnoon Islands near the southern city of Basra on June 25.

Also in June, Iraq announced it had driven Iranian forces from a number of strategic mountainposts in its northern Kurdistan province. The victories leave only a handful of Iranian positions in Iraqi territory and have boosted Iraqi troop morale enormously.

Military experts in Baghdad who visited some of the recaptured areas were astonished at the speed of the Iraqi offensives and what appeared to be the lack of any stiff Iranian resistance.

"Shalamchah should have taken days, if not weeks, to retake," said one Western military man in the Iraqi capital.

Diplomats in Baghdad say the Iranian people know about the setbacks and that their morale has suffered.

Breaking out of the defensive

posture that has dominated Iraqi military thinking and activity in recent years and taking the offensive against the Iraqis has sparked a new optimism in Baghdad.

President Saddam Hussein, speaking to his troops after the victory at Majnoon, said they had won the most difficult conflict in the chain of battles needed to end the war.

Official slogans suggest the Iraqis feel the end of the fight against Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's forces is near.

"The official announcement of victory will be soon, God willing," said one sign near the battlefront at Majnoon.

"We are convinced that the outcome of the war will be decided in the coming days, weeks or months," deputy premier Taha Yassin Ramadan told a Tunisian newspaper last week.

Iraq's new-found prowess

It was not clear if Baghdad's battlefield successes were due to a new-found prowess of the Iraqi army or a crumbling Iranian will to fight. There have been growing signs of political and military disarray inside Iran.

Western military analysts have noted increasing desertions in the armed forces and Tehran's difficulty in recruiting new soldiers. The issue of new identity cards in Iran is seen largely as an effort to crack down on draft dodgers.

The conduct of the war also has come under critical scrutiny in the press lately, and factional political squabbling continues.

On June 2, Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani was appointed commander-in-chief of Iranian Armed Forces in an effort to end bickering and implement a badly needed reorganisation of the army and the Revolutionary Guards.

The National Liberation Army of Iran, an Iraqi-backed and based rebel force made up of members of sympathisers of the

people's Mujahedeen Organisation, say many of the more than 2,000 prisoners they bold surrendered easily after only brief resistance, indicating little will to fight.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Iraq has refrained from striking into Iranian territory except on brief occasions for tactical reasons. Some observers speculate that once Baghdad has recovered the few small pockets of Iraqi territory still in Iranian hands, mostly in the mountainous north, the war will come to a de facto end, the pre-1980 borders having been reestablished.

No movement on diplomatic front

The Iraqis concede there is no movement at all on the diplomatic front, but cling to U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 as the only possible solution to the conflict.

That resolution, accepted by Iraq immediately after its passage last July, has been neither accepted nor rejected by Iran. It calls for a cease-fire, withdrawal to original borders, exchange of prisoners and determination of who was responsible for starting the war.

Had Iran accepted the resolution and begun negotiations, it may have been able to extract

concessions from Iraq in return for the captured territory. Now it has lost the territory and has nothing concrete to show for it.

"Iraq cannot accept just a cease-fire," Hamdoun said. "We think that after eight years of war, you either continue or settle the war once and for all. You can't have a no-peace situation and maintain the necessary manpower."

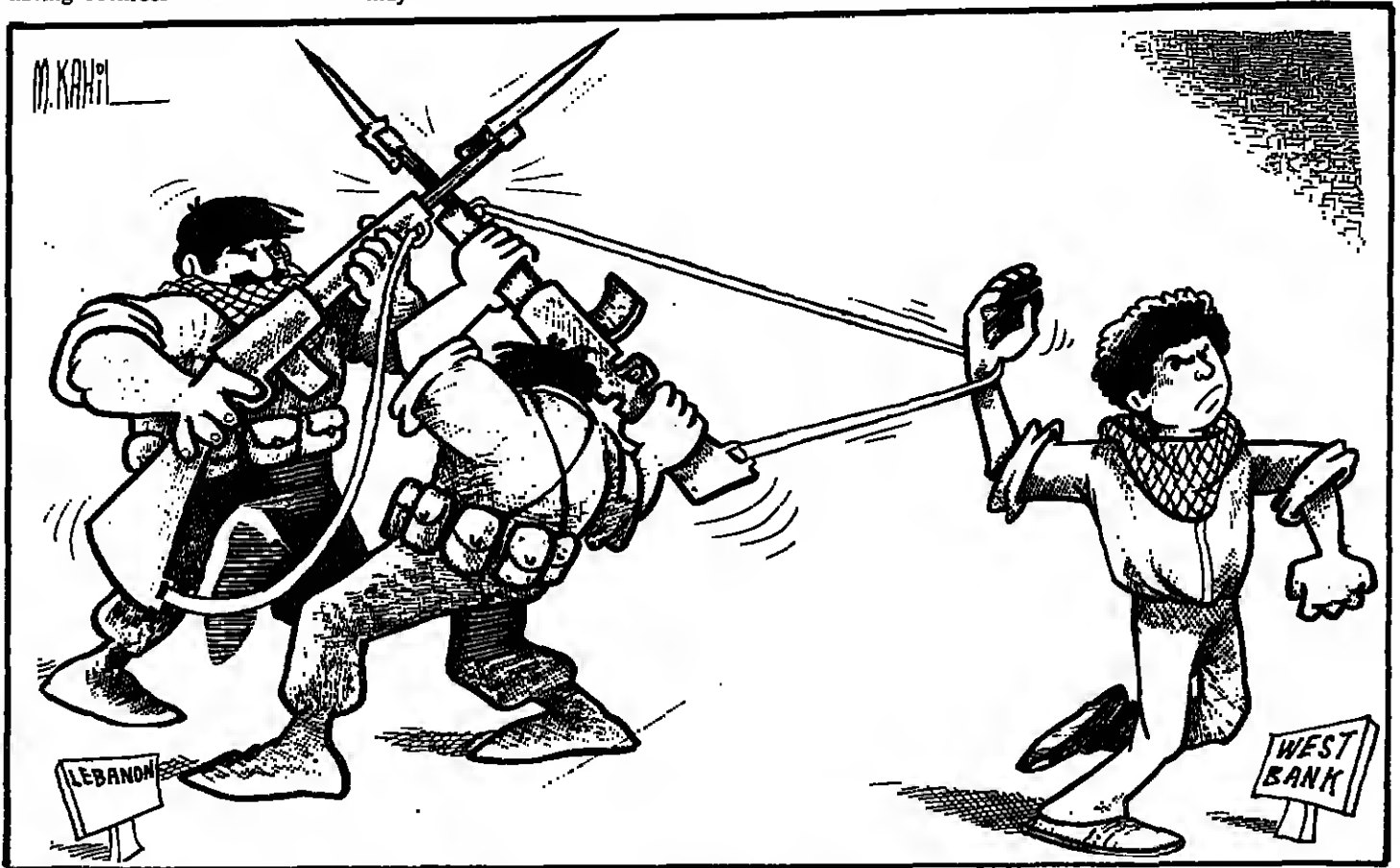
"We'll do our best to apply all diplomatic, military and economic pressure on Iran until it accepts a comprehensive peace."

Iraq has little faith in the United Nations' ability to mediate peace, pointing to 20 years of failure in the Arab-Israeli conflict, and has even less faith in outside mediators.

A Turkish effort on behalf of U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to establish a secret link between Iran and Iraq earlier this month came to nothing.

"After 598, there's nothing more that diplomacy can do," said a Western diplomat. "Iraq is capable of waiting and may be convinced that it's the only route."

Conventional wisdom has been that Iran, with its larger population and greater resources, could wear down and outlast Iraq in a war of attrition. That has not proved to be the case.



AIPAC hits below the belt

The following is the first of a two part series describing the activities of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). It is reprinted from Power magazine.

By Eric Alterman

Fatima Said, a congressional reporter for the National Association of Arab Americans, was in a bad mood that was getting worse. She was supposed to cover a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing that would address the amount of aid that Israel would receive from the United States, and she had arrived at the hearing room at 8:30 a.m., an hour early. She had been the first person in line.

But Said wasn't allowed into the room for the beginning of the hearing. There was no seats available for the general public, a guard told her; they had all been claimed by congressional staffers. Then, as she was digesting this information, the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Dante Fascell, ambled into the room. Alongside him, talking animatedly, was the primary nemesis of the National Association of Arab Americans: Douglas Bloomfield, the chief lobbyist for the most influential lobby in Washington, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

Bloomfield sauntered in with Chairman Fascell just seconds before the hearing began. When Said was finally allowed into the room, just before 10 o'clock, she noticed that Bloomfield and another AIPAC lobbyist were seated in the section normally reserved for guests of the White House. The second lobbyist had apparently entered from an anteroom that's reserved for congressmen and their staffs.

It surprised no one that AIPAC got everything it wanted for Israel.

"AIPAC is out of control. If you don't agree with them, you get savaged."

Here's another measure of AIPAC's formidable reputation: Said, who's planning to apply for U.S. citizenship, asked that her real name be disguised lest her association with an AIPAC adversary prejudice her application. Her request may be slightly paranoid, but the acronym AIPAC tends to evoke such feelings in many people, particularly those with whom it disagrees.

AIPAC's success in building a bulletproof consensus on Israel's behalf on Capitol Hill is almost without precedent. If power in Washington can be measured by the degree to which one appears to be powerful, AIPAC is a veritable nuclear reactor.

The White House and the State Department rarely make a move in Israel's direction without first consulting it. Democratic presidential candidates ask for its reaction before they hire foreign policy advisers. An adviser to Walter Mondale once compared its clout to organized labour's. Some say that there are congressmen who won't tie their shoes without AIPAC's approval.

Without a doubt, AIPAC is the most powerful ethnic lobby to emerge in recent American history. A case can be made that it is, in fact, the most powerful Washington lobby of any kind. All lobbies worth their salt, from the NRA to the Friends of the Earth, own some congressmen's votes on particular issues, but no lobby cuts as wide a swath in so many different circles: AIPAC's influence is felt not merely on the Hill but in the White House, the Pentagon, the State Department, the Treasury, and in a host of buildings in between. And its influence doesn't depend on the assistance of a friendly administration; more often than not, it's the other way around.

But success breeds resentment, and AIPAC's seems to have bred more than most. The growth of what AIPAC likes to call "Jewish political muscle" raises a number of troubling questions, not only for the nation but for the American Jewish community. AIPAC has aligned itself with the most hard-line aspects of Israel's foreign policy agenda: Israel's invasion of Lebanon, support for its neo-fascist allies in Latin America and elsewhere, and support for its "iron-fist" treatment of the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The lobby has made it impossible for both the legislative and the executive branches to deal with the problem of the Palestinian people and their representation by the PLO in anything but the grossest, most demagogic fashion.

Resentment against AIPAC's strong-arm tactics appears to be growing in nearly all of the circles in which the lobby operates and even in its own backyard: the American Jewish community. Many Jewish doves have been alienated by AIPAC's support of Israel's most militant elements and its dismissal of the traditional idealistic Jewish agenda in favour of hard-nosed Cold War-tinged realpolitik. This split is epitomised by the actions of Nehum Goldmann, a lifelong Zionist and a founder of the Jewish lobby that became AIPAC. Goldmann asked President Jimmy Carter to try to destroy it. Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, the former president of the American Jewish Congress, has publicly called for the AIPAC to be disbanded. "You can only push so far," says Hertzberg.

Congressmen can be pushed around, but they can't be made to like it. A former Pentagon official quoted in The Lobby, Edward Tivnan's study of AIPAC, noted, "It's not that AIPAC is too powerful. The problem is that it is out of control. It is a self-stimulating machine with no corrective device. If you don't agree, you get savaged... They want 100 per cent cooperation, or else, they claim, there will be another holocaust."

AWACs deal

The man behind the rise of AIPAC is the seemingly mild-mannered Thomas Dine, who has been the lobby's executive director since October 1980. Dine's first order of business, in early 1981, was to try to bring about the congressional defeat of the Reagan administration's plan to sell advanced surveillance airplanes to Saudi Arabia. AIPAC lost the battle but won the war. Since then Dine has increased the lobby's membership by 500 per cent (to 55,000), tripled the size of its Washington staff, and opened branch offices in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Austin.

The lobby's current budget is over \$6 million. Most significant, more than 100 Israel-oriented political action committees have sprung up around the country, many of them run by individuals who have close connections to AIPAC (which, despite its name, is itself not a PAC). These PACs contributed nearly \$7 million to congressional candidates in the 1986 election. As a result, the Palestinians have precious few friends on Capitol Hill.

A sort of fear and trembling is induced in people when they're asked to talk about AIPAC: a visceral response that the group's executive director has done his best to encourage. Dine, who refused a half dozen requests for an interview for this article, has been quoted as saying, "We think it's better to be strong and criticised than weak, ignored, and not respected."

On Capitol Hill there's more than respect for AIPAC: there's fascination, even awe. Paul Findley, an 11-term congressman who was defeated in an election in which Dine's words, "Jewish money made the difference," says that "the mere mention of the word AIPAC brings a sober, furtive look. AIPAC means power."

The bottom line is, they like to hit below the belt.

Findley should know. After he lost his seat to an AIPAC-backed opponent in 1982, he wrote They Dare to Speak Out, an attack on AIPAC's alleged censorship and intimidation tactics. After the book was rejected by nearly every established publisher in the business, it was finally printed by a tiny Connecticut house — thereby, in Findley's eyes, proving its point.

AIPAC's goal is to ensure that no more Paul Findleys arrive in Congress to replace the one it helped to defeat. A quick look at the numbers indicates that AIPAC is doing a pretty fair job. Israel, a country with slightly more than three million people, will receive roughly \$3 billion in U.S. aid this year, under terms more favourable than most parents tender their kids' allowances.

Meanwhile, 45 African countries will receive a total of one-third that amount. Israel's peace partner, Egypt, is the only nation that even remotely competes with Israel's level of aid. The nations receive approximately 40 per cent of U.S. foreign assistance funds, but the Egyptians are being given a per capita sum of about \$50 while the Israelis are being given \$1,000.

AIPAC's success

The numbers tell only a small part of AIPAC's success story. There are, it seems, 101 ways in which the organisation's victories over the National Association of Arab Americans, the Arab-American Institute, and the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee can be measured.

The Arab groups, which are smaller and less firmly entrenched than AIPAC, have nevertheless tried to cool U.S. favouritism towards Israel by emulating some of AIPAC's tactics. But so far their efforts have been in little avail.

When AIPAC held its annual policy convention at the Washington Hilton last May, the mood was one of self-congratulation bordering on outright euphoria. Despite the bad press that Israel had received as a result of its role in the Iran-contra scandal and the Pollard spy case — in which it was learned that Israel had hired an American Jew to spy on the U.S. government at its highest levels — Dine stood before the 1,000 pro-Israel activists and said, "We may have just had the worst 12 months on record in terms of publicity, but we had one of the best years on record in terms of concrete legislation. The lobby's victories included sweetheart deals for Israeli products coming into the United States, joint military production efforts between the Israeli army and the Pentagon, and vastly increased foreign aid in a year marked by Gramm-Rudman budget cuts. The 1986 edition of AIPAC's legislative report, a review of the lobby's accomplishments, is more than 60 pages long.

AIPAC's banquet had the air of a giant bar mitzvah, but with a difference: more than 100 senators and congressmen and about a half dozen presidential candidates attended it. The usually staid George Shultz lost all sense of decorum when he led the crowd in a chant of "PLO. Hell, no." The group, which had once feared that Shultz's

business ties to the Arab World would colour his view of Israel, responded with near pandemonium every time he opened his mouth.

When someone from the audience asked him to run for president, the crowd erupted into a standing ovation. (One might argue, however, that they were applauding their own ability to transform Shultz into a mouthpiece for the pro-Israel line.)

Compared to the AIPAC event, the National Association of Arab Americans' convention at the Vista International Hotel in June was a rather understated affair. Only a few hundred people attended, and only a handful of congressmen showed up. None of the administration officials on hand made the slightest attempt to pander to the audience, as Shultz had done at AIPAC's banquet.

And when the visitors went to Capitol Hill to lobby, just as AIPAC's activists had done, they were met not by smiling congressmen but by uninterested staffers who repeatedly checked their watches. If AIPAC is the Arnold Schwarzenegger of lobbies, then the Arab-American lobby is the Rodney Dangerfield.

"AIPAC is beyond lobbying," explains a congressional aide. "They don't even need to call my boss anymore. If we see the word Saudi arms sale somewhere in the newspaper, we call them and say, 'Put us on the list.'"

That's exactly what happened in May and again in September, when the administration again tried to sell Saudi Arabia missiles and planes. Within a nano-second of congressional notification, hundreds of congressmen and senators lit up AIPAC's switchboard and offered to sign a letter to protest.

Faris Bouhafa, a media specialist for the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) accuses U.S. congressmen of acting like "automatons" when it comes to AIPAC's desires. When foreign aid issues arise, a surprising number of the congressmen who sit on key committees rely on staffers who have been trained by, and presumably for, AIPAC.

A congressman who had an opening on an important committee received more than 80 applications for the job from people who had been interns and staffers at AIPAC or who had attended its training sessions. Two of the three finalists for the job had AIPAC connections.

One of the consequences of the ubiquitousness of AIPAC's staffers can be gleaned from the small print of a 1987 draft report by the House Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East. The report notes that because Israel's grants were to be made on an "expedited basis" — in other words, Israel was to receive its money during the first 30 days of the fiscal year instead of in quarterly disbursements — the U.S. government would forfeit \$35 million in lost interest. Congress had not appropriated the extra money as part of the Israeli aid programme.

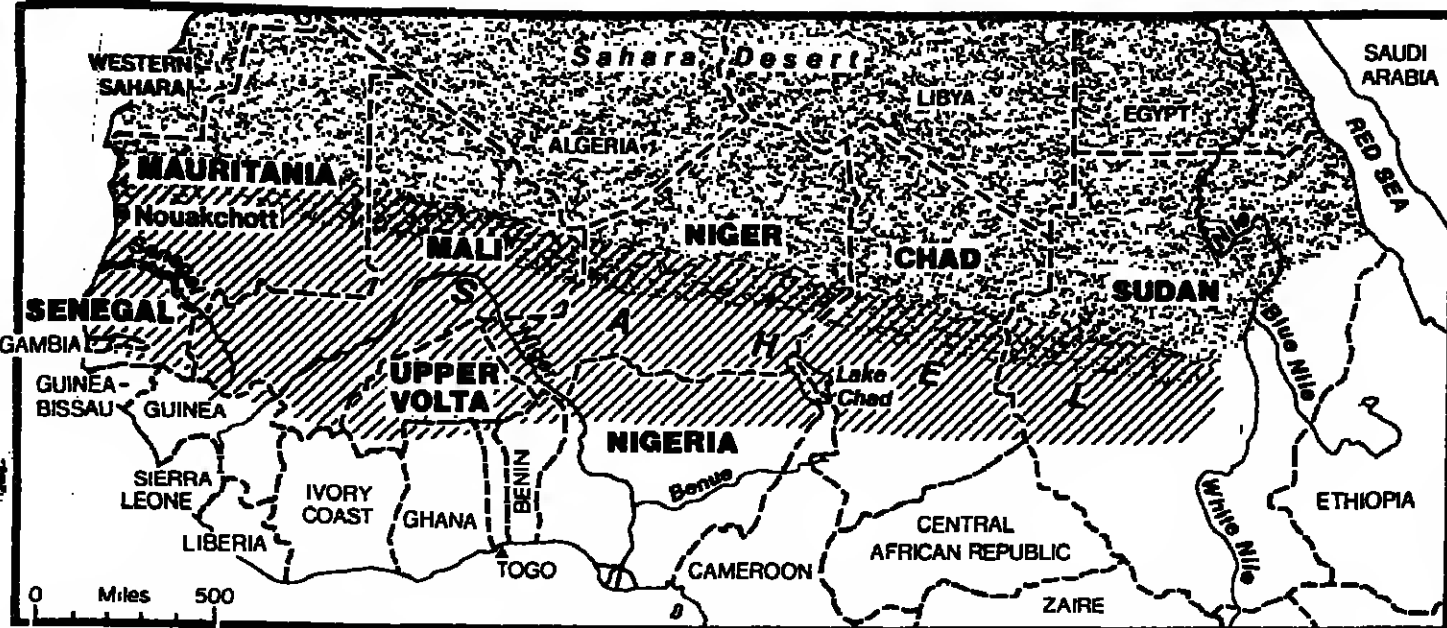
Another ramification is that these congressional staffers can act as moles for AIPAC, increasing its access to Hill intelligence and classified data. Thus, if a congressman is planning to do something that AIPAC doesn't approve of, he may very well receive a number of calls from his Jewish constituents — all of whom are in AIPAC's legendary data base and who were major contributors to his campaign. He may also receive a call from the Israeli ambassador.

A careful reader may have noted that few people who aren't publicly associated with the Arab cause are willing to be quoted on the record as being against AIPAC. The research for this article included fruitless attempts to induce former AIPAC staffers to break the organisation's shroud of secrecy. One congressional staffer who had reportedly left his job over differences with Dine spent a couple of days mulling over whether to talk, but in the end decided to keep quiet.

Whether or not AIPAC deliberately intimidates people, the fact remains that many people are intimidated. According to James Zogby, the executive director of the Arab-American Institute, AIPAC is "intolerant of debate and employs McCarthyite tactics to taint, smear, discredit, and otherwise destroy the credibility" of its opponents. Zogby, who has been attacked by AIPAC in a controversial publication called The Campaign to Discredit Israel (which many people consider to be a thinly disguised enemies list), thinks that AIPAC's campaign against Arabs and Palestinians "smacks of the kind of anti-Semitism that has traditionally been practiced against Jews."

AIPAC is both admired and detested by the political community in which it operates. Michael Hudson, the head of Georgetown University's Centre for Arab Studies and another anointed AIPAC enemy, believes that "the bottom line on AIPAC is that they like to hit below the belt. Their influence is not conducive to a rational Mideast policy."

David Sadd, the director of the National Association of Arab Americans, admits that he is sometimes disgusted by the lobby's arrogance and intolerance but that he can't help but admire its effectiveness. A congressional staffer notes that no office on Capitol Hill can match AIPAC's efficiency: "If I call them up at three o'clock and say I need talking points on a particular bill, they will have them over here by five o'clock. Whole speeches can take a little longer."



North, West Africans map anti-locust strategy

NOUAKCHOTT (R) — North and West African states battling the worst locust swarms in 30 years have drafted a plan to stop future invasions.

Delegates from Sahel and Maghreb countries ended a four-day conference in the Mauritanian capital last week, agreeing on closer cooperation to monitor and control locusts before they get out of hand.

A permanent mechanism is needed for control in countries where locusts are found all the

time, said Lucas Brader, the conference chairman and head of the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) anti-locust programme.

The plan arising from the meeting calls for bolstering national anti-locust campaigns instead of leaving the job to regional organisations.

It also calls for linking four Sahel or sub-Saharan countries — Mauritania, Mali, Niger and Chad — to North Africa for locust control purposes.

The plan, in a draft form to be approved by the end of August, endorses the restructuring of the existing Sahel anti-locust agency Oclav to a coordinating role.

Ministers of the nine member nations of Oclav (Common Organisation for Control of Desert Locust and Bird Pests) agreed in Bamako in March to restructure the Dakar-based group but delayed a final decision until October.

Oclav director general Abdallah Ould Soued Ahmad said the organisation would continue to exist although in revised form, with greater emphasis on information and research.

One purpose of the U.N.-sponsored meeting was to reassure donor nations which provide locust-fighting assistance that the money would be spent effectively.

Several donor states, among them Canada, West Germany and Britain, as well as the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank, used the occasion to announce more than \$20 million in new aid for locust control.

The United Nations Development Programme, which co-sponsored the meeting with FAO, is providing \$3.3 million for technical assistance and equipment needed for the planned coordination.

New Bosphorus bridge opened

ISTANBUL (R) — Prime Minister Turgut Ozal opened the second Bosphorus bridge linking Asia and Europe Sunday amid some of the tightest security ever seen in Turkey.

Helicopters buzzed overhead and some 15,000 commandos, anti-terrorist police and para-military gendarmes were on alert as Ozal cut the tape before driving his official car over the suspension bridge at the head of a 200-vehicle convoy.

The \$552-million bridge, built by a Turkish-Japanese-Italian consortium, was opened 15 days after Ozal narrowly missed assassination at a meeting of his party in Ankara.

Ozal arrived by helicopter from a Turkish warship in the Bosphorus, which links the Black Sea and Soviet naval shipyards to the Sea of Marmara and the Mediterranean.

"We thank God for allowing us the opportunity to start and finish such a great work," Ozal said in his opening speech.

Officials and journalists were searched at least twice before the ceremony, during which all sea traffic near the 1,100-metre bridge was halted.

The bridge, five kilometres downstream from the first bridge opened in 1973, is named "Fatih" (conqueror) after Ottoman ruler Sultan Mehmet II, who led the Turkish-Muslim conquest of Constantinople — now Istanbul — in 1453.

It was built in four years by a consortium of Turkey's Sezai Turkes-Feriz Akkaya (STFA) group, Japan's Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Nippon Kokan, and Impregilo of Italy.

Japanese Construction Minister Ihei Ochi and Italian Public Works Minister Enrico Ferri were among officials at the opening, watched over by police marksmen atop mechanical cranes and troops on the roofs of nearby apartment blocks.

Ozal, who applied in April last year for Turkish membership of the European Economic Community, said Turkey attached much importance to cooperation with Japan.

"Turkey has adopted as an example the Japanese model of development. It is trying to become another Japan in the region," he said. "Increasing economic ties with Japan have given a new dimension to a 100-year-old friendship."

Ozal said Turkey expected large-scale Japanese assistance and support for its free economic zones project and a massive dam and irrigation scheme in the underdeveloped southeast near the Iranian and Iraqi borders.

Some approach roads to the new bridge are not yet finished. It will initially carry about 70,000 to 80,000 vehicles daily on four of its eight lanes, rising to 240,000 on completion.

The first bridge, designed for 80,000 vehicles daily, is now clogged with about 120,000, a spinoff of major traffic problems in Istanbul, a city of nearly seven million people.

U.S. navy shoots down Iranian plane

(Continued from page 1)

pick up the floating corpses. It said 110 had been recovered.

The television report said those on the plane included 156 men, 52 women, 66 children under twelve and a crew of 16.

Reagan said the shooting was unintentional and occurred during "proper defensive action" as U.S. warships confronted Iranian gunboats in the Strait of Hormuz.

Reagan said the Iran Air jet was headed directly for the USS Vincennes, which was engaged in a skirmish with Iranian gunboats in the Gulf.

"When the aircraft failed to heed repeated warnings, the Vincennes followed standing orders and widely publicised procedures, firing to protect itself against possible attack," Reagan said in the statement, read by his spokesman, Martin Fitzwater.

Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, expressed regret over the incident but emphasised several times that U.S. military commanders in the Gulf had "acted with good judgment" in that they believed American ships were being approached by hostile aircraft.

He told a news conference at the Pentagon that the ships fired two times after sending warnings to the incoming aircraft. He said its flight profile "led us to believe it was a military aircraft."

Crowe said the craft never responded to three warnings sent on a civilian distress network or four warnings sent on a military distress network and that the craft was "decreasing in altitude" as it neared the American vessel.

Neither the president nor Crowe addressed in any detail the major question: How the multi-million dollar, state-of-the-art defence systems on the Vincennes could confuse a relatively small fighter jet with a wide-bodied passenger aircraft?

The incident is highly embarrassing for the United States internationally and threatens to suck the nation even deeper into the Gulf war quagmire.

The Vincennes arrived in the Gulf just over a month ago, the first of the navy's billion-dollar "Aegis-type" missile cruisers to be assigned to the U.S. force in the waterway.

The ship is equipped with a computer-run "phased array" radar system that is linked to its weaponry and can conduct dozens of air surveillance and firing missions at the same time.

U.S. officials have said the Vincennes' ability to perform

multiple functions could ease the burden on other ships serving in the Gulf and give the navy a far more potent weapon that it has had in the waterway.

Earlier, the Defence Department said U.S. navy ships shot down an Iranian F-14 jet fighter and sank two gunboats in the clash Sunday, but said it had no information about a downed Iranian airliner.

'Excavation' sparks clashes

(Continued from page 1)

Muslim and Israeli officials decided later Sunday to hold further talks about the excavation and cover up the dig for now.

Workmen began filling in the hole about 12:30 p.m. (0930 GMT) as the prayer call sounded from mosques.

But the issue seemed likely to surface again. Muslims said they want the hole closed for good, and Zevulun Orlev, director general of Israel's religious affairs

ministry, said he hoped eventually the tunnel could be opened as a tourist attraction.

The Islamic High Council issued a complaint, saying: "We believe the (excavating) group was trying to create a passageway under the mosque... in order to walk under this holy area."

"This incident highlights the fact that Israel does not have any regard for the Islamic religion or international opinion," it said.

Assad, Rifai discuss Mideast

(Continued from page 1)

Committee concludes meeting

The committee concluded its meetings Sunday evening. A statement released after the closing session, which was chaired by Rifai and Zoubi, said the two sides agreed on dealing with all questions related to joint companies with a view to developing them and increasing investments.

The two prime ministers signed the minutes of the meeting. The meeting set up sub-com-

mittees to follow up the higher committee's decisions and resolutions and to submit reports to the higher committee, which will meet next in Amman in December. The statement said the Damascus meeting was held in a constructive atmosphere and that the two sides were determined to press ahead with the coordination and cooperation process launched by King Hussein and President Assad.

Rifai and the delegation accompanying him returned to Amman Sunday night.

'Peace offer official PLO policy'

(Continued from page 1)

The proposals as "a significant step toward political dialogue." Abu Sharif dismissed as insignificant the objections to his document expressed by Palestinian hard-liners, including extremist Abu Nidal, anti-Arafat group leader Abu Musa and PLO security chief Salah Khalaf.

In a statement issued in Tunis last week, Salah Khalaf denounced Abu Sharif as a "deviationist" and accused him of dividing Palestinian ranks.

Abu Sharif asserted that Khalaf spoke for a small minority, but said the PLO's democratic principles allow him to express his views freely.

"The criticism in certain Palestinian circles has a wide spectrum of reasons," he said. "But very few have criticised the political content of the points I stated as the basis for a solution to the conflict."

Ahn Sharif said his proposals were a "clarification" of the

PLO's position on a future peace settlement as unanimously approved by the Palestine National Council.

Elaborating on his proposals as distributed at the Arafat summit, Abu Sharif said: "We are prepared to accept an immediate transitional stage in which the United Nations or the European nations would set up an international force to exercise a mandate over the occupied territories."

"We will accept this for a short period, or for as long as the United Nations decides."

During the operation of such a mandate, he said, the Palestinian people could freely decide their own future.

At the conclusion of the process, the Palestinians would accept a United Nations peacekeeping force stationed on their side of the future border "to guarantee the security of Israel for as long as an international peace conference wants it — or forever if that's what the Israelis want."

One million North Yemenis elect parliament tomorrow

By Abdul Rahman Al Haidari
Reuters

SANAA — More than a million people are expected to vote in North Yemen's first general election Tuesday.

They will be electing 128 candidates for the country's 159-seat Majlis-Shoor'a (parliament) which will have the power to legislate, ratify treaties and elect the president.

"It looks as if it will be a keenly contested affair," commented one Western diplomat based in Sanaa.

Candidates — mostly merchants, tribal leaders and intellectuals — have put up posters throughout North Yemen's towns and villages, and distributed pamphlets door-to-door to solicit popular support.

Analysts said the election was part of President Ali Abdullah Saleh's attempt to establish political consensus by implementing what local media call Islamic democracy.

There are no political parties in North Yemen, but two coalitions, one conservative and the other nationalist, have emerged to compete across 128 electoral districts.

They appear to differ on what form democracy should take in the future parliament.

The Islamic coalition has said it wants the country of nine million governed by Islamic law and custom. Islam should also be the guiding force in foreign affairs.

By contrast, the republican coalition has urged the reelection of President Saleh. It wants a revolutionary, republican government dedicated to modernisation and the protection of individual rights.

It has also called for a continuation of non-alignment in foreign affairs.

Both coalitions say their candidates seek the unification of North and South Yemen, but the Islamic grouping wants this implemented on the basis of Islamic principles.

Unification between the devoutly religious North and Marxist-ruled Aden is a contentious issue in the Arabian Peninsula, not least for Saudi Arabia, which borders both states and provides substantial aid to the two states.

Saleh, 46, an army colonel, has the power to appoint 31 people to the new parliament.

He has been careful to stand back from the election campaign, urging citizens to vote for nationalists owing allegiance to God, country and the 1962 revolution.

Saleh signed an agreement with South Yemen May 4, defusing tension over a disputed border area and reaffirming both states' commitment to

unification.

Last Friday, travel restrictions were eased, allowing Yemenis to cross the North-South border freely.

The president, who was elected in 1978, has warned voters against what he calls "enemies of the revolution."

Diplomats said there were small groups of communists, Nasserists and other leftists active in North Yemen, but they were unlikely to have much impact on the Tuesday poll.

More significant, they said, was the Muslim brotherhood, which had its own newspaper as well as adherents in some mosques.

"The Brethren are considered by some to be Saudi Arabia's unofficial party in the north," said one foreign observer.

"They are very wary of Aden's brand of socialism." Election results are expected Tuesday night.

Lebanon requests Interpol help in waste case

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon has asked the International Police Agency, Interpol, to trace a Lebanese businessman who arranged the importation of 2,400 tons of Italian toxic waste to Lebanon, a police spokesman said Sunday.

The authorities want Arman Nassar, currently out of the country, to identify the owner of the Italian company Jelly Wax, who provided the toxic material, said the spokesman.

Both Nassar and the Italian will be summoned to Lebanon for interrogation, the spokesman added.

Beirut's Al Diya daily said that six Lebanese businessmen detained by the police have admitted involvement in importing the dangerous toxic wastes from Italy.

The newspaper, published in east Beirut, attributed the report to unidentified sources involved in investigating the dumping of the toxic waste in Lebanon's Christian enclave last month.

Al Diya said 1,600 barrels of the deadly waste had been burned at a garbage dump at east Beirut's Karantina district and the ash dumped in the sea.

It added that another 1,600 barrels containing plastic-like waste were used by a businessman in east Beirut to make automobile spare parts.

Ahmad Hamza, an Egyptian World Health Organisation (WHO) expert, examined the Karantina garbage dump Saturday and gathered ash, seawater and fish samples for examination, Al Diya reported.

It added that the samples would be sent to WHO laboratories in Geneva Tuesday for detailed analysis and that final results were expected in 10 days.

UNICEF spearheads child immunisation drive in Iran

By Rania Atalla
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Iran, which ranks as the eighth largest populated country in the world, has embarked on a child immunisation campaign that aims to cover 90 per cent of children by the end of October 1988, according to United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) Regional Director Richard Reid.

"This is an ambitious target," Reid, who recently returned from Iran, told an informal meeting of the press Sunday. "We believe they will reach close to 85 per cent coverage, higher than many European countries," he said.

Reid said the Iran campaign, which falls in line with UNICEF's goal of achieving universal child immunisation by 1990, is aimed at saving the two million babies born each year from easily preventable diseases.

Before the campaign was launched in June, only 55 per cent of children in Iran (newborns to five-year olds) were immunised, he said. Protecting children at that age is crucial to raising the life expectancy level in developing countries, Reid told the meeting, held at UNICEF's Middle East and North Africa regional office in Amman.

The four pillars of the general campaign being carried out in Iran, Reid said, include making mothers breast feed for longer periods, weaning children more gradually to take solid foods, using oral rehydration treatment to prevent death from diarrhoea and dehydration, and immunising children against diseases that could leave them with mental and physical handicaps should they survive the disease.

If all four factors are covered, almost 80 per cent of the causes of children's illnesses will be overcome, Reid said. The campaign in Iran "rides on a health education project" being carried out in the country simultaneously, and is being emphasised by the local media, according to Reid.

"Over the past 10 years, the country has slowly been building its infrastructure," Reid said, adding that at present, Iran has

between 13,000 to 14,000 "front-line health workers, who prevent and attend to 70 to 80 per cent of child diseases before they are referred to doctors."

Reid said religious leaders in the country had been "very positive, giving extraordinary strong backing" to the campaign, and added that the "deep Islamic feeling has turned out to be a great pillar of support" for the ambitious campaign.

Given the large size of the country and the fact that Iran is two thirds semi-mountainous desert, Reid said, there were some difficulties in the July-to-September first phase of the campaign.

He cited logistical problems, problems of distribution of vaccines and oral rehydration sachets as examples.

Reid said Egypt was leading in the immunisation campaign among countries with a population of five million and above. He added however that Iran may soon climb up to the top of the list.

Iran has an infant mortality rate of 50-60 per 1,000 live births, below the average for the region, which Reid estimated at 70 per 1,000.

Reid estimated UNICEF's contribution to the campaign in Iran at less than \$500,000.

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RSS chief calls for new industrial policy

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times economics correspondent

AMMAN — Royal Scientific Society (RSS) President Jawad Anani Sunday said the country was in need of a new industrial policy to be formulated with the active participation of the private sector. He said import substitution was needed provided the mechanism was characterised by simplicity and conformity and within a specific time frame.

Addressing the closing session of the two-day conference on industrialisation of Jordan, Anani, a former industry and trade minister, said that import substitution should focus on tariffs and not quotas and that the ideas on import substitution "should come from the private sector."

He recommended that small and medium-size enterprises should be encouraged because of their labour-intensity, ease of management and tapping potential entrepreneurs without a big risk.

He told the conference that the private sector needs to identify investment opportunities and make financing available. He said that investments should be encouraged by the accessibility to government incentives, and the availability of technical assistance.

On joint ventures, Anani said that in order to encourage foreign investment in the Kingdom, foreign investors "must face stable and clear government regulations that are not subject to fast change and discretionary measures."

He said that technology transferred from the foreign partner should not be solely embodied in the importation of machinery but through ensuring compatible entrepreneurial skills and well-developed feasibility studies.

On financing industries, the RSS chief said that collateral structure "needs to be reviewed and that financing should be given to projects and not to people."

"Feasibility studies are needed, and upon these credit must be determined," he told the conference. He said that there should be a review of current measures on all industries.

His recommendations, which served as a kind of consensus reached during discussions at the conference, included the elimination of capital requirements on the corporate structure of the market, innovative financing such as acquisition, takeovers, and the creation of quasi-equity instruments.

Anani underlined the importance of eliminating rigidities in

regulations and legislative applications, the establishment of a strong, dynamic and scientific sector that can contribute to Jordan's development with free exit and entry options "provided that the environment will ensure the survival of the fittest."

The conference earlier discussed papers dealing with organisational and management effectiveness by Ivor McElveen and on industrial financing and industrialisation in Jordan by Dr. Ziad Annab.

Annab, general manager of the Industrial Development Bank, said the Kingdom's industrial sector enjoys comparative advantages such as proximity to Arab markets, availability of developed infrastructure, comprehensive financial services and non-restricted access to imported inputs.

However, he added, "the sector is confronted with two major negative characteristics, namely the smallness of the local market and dependence on imported raw materials."

He explained that this is accompanied by high production cost attributable to cost of inputs, and by shortages of indigenous expertise in the fields of management and marketing.

He recommended the following:

- Abolish, and if not possible, reduce the scope of industrial licensing.

- Simplify the application and approval process of encouragement of investment law.

- Upgrade quality of manufactured products through standards, testing and certification.

- Expand export markets through bilateral and multilateral agreements.

- Improve institutions for export promotion.

- Improve arrangements for export financing including export guarantees.

- Replace quantitative restrictions by tariffs in order to avoid excessive price distortions in the market.

- Allow more flexibility to financial institutions in setting lending rates and consider a loan guarantee scheme for medium and small scale industries.

- Provision of training programmes and seminars for the purpose of qualifying and upgrading of higher management cadres.

McElveen, an advisor on foreign investment with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), discussed the non-universality of management and made observations on some cultural aspects, considered organisational structures.

He made a plea for human resource development "on the assumption that people are the nations' greatest asset."

"At the risk of being universalistic, this would appear to be both the challenge and opportunity now facing Jordan which will contribute most to management effectiveness and organisational performance in your industry," he told the conference.

"But the real and immediate challenge, is probably to assess the non-universality of the current management systems relevant to the cultural needs and aspirations of the Jordanian industrial society, and adapt one and maybe change the other accordingly."



Officials of Noor Al Hussein Foundation and a representative of the U.S. firm sign contract for contractor Jafar Tukan (second from right) and the Jubilee School (Petra photo)

Tukan, Flansburgh win contract for pioneering Jubilee School

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Sunday awarded two consultancy firms: Jafar Tukan and Partners of Jordan and Earl Flansburgh and Associates of the USA a contract of nearly JD 90,000 to prepare designs and drawings and supervise the preparation of specifications for tenders for the construction of the projected "Jubilee School" near Jubeiha north west of Amman.

The two firms should finish their work in 33 weeks before tenders for the JD 4 million school can be announced, according to the terms of the agreement signed by representatives of the two consultancy firms and the NHF's Director General Ina'am Al Mufti.

The school, for gifted students from Jordan, is to be built on 120 dunums of land offered by the government. The school will include

laboratories, libraries, workshops, dormitories, playgrounds, in-door swimming pool, restaurants, and residential quarters for staff, according to the terms of the contract.

According to the contract, the school, which will have a total area of 20,000 square metres, should be ready for occupancy before the 1990-1991 scholastic year.

Mrs. Mufti, who spoke at the signing ceremony, said that NHF was grateful to all organisations and citizens who have contributed towards the implementation of the school project which, she said, will provide high level learning and training to talented Jordanian students.

The signing of the contract coincides with continued progress on 10-day workshops on teaching gifted students and promoting

school curricula and subject matters which opened at the University of Jordan Saturday under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The workshops were organised by the NHF in cooperation with UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation) and the British Council in Amman in the course of ongoing preparations for the opening of the Jubilee School.

The Jubilee School for gifted students will be set up in honour of His Majesty King Hussein's deep commitment to education and in recognition of the great strides made by the country under his leadership.

Last January, NHF distributed awards to three engineering firms for their designs of the Jubilee School, and the first award went to Jaafar Tougan and Associates.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for July 3, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	328256	JD 320282	341
Top three companies:			
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	24100	JD 40327	52
National Steel Industries	14075	JD 37140	17
Finance and Credit	45795	JD 27854	50
Parallel market:	9850	JD 2750	—
Development bonds:	323	JD 3434	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

Tabbaa dismisses talk of an economic crisis

AMMAN (J.T.) — Industry, Trade and Supply Minister Hamdi Tabbaa said Saturday that Jordan does not suffer an economic crisis but is currently facing a period of slowdown like other countries in the region.

In an interview with the Agence France Presse news agency, the minister said that this situation can be attributed to the decline in world oil prices, a shrinking of Arab countries' financial assistance to Jordan, a decrease in the volume of transfers by Jordanian expatriates to the Kingdom and the ongoing Gulf war.

But, he said, that despite the difficulties, Jordan can and should be able to adapt to the new situation. Asked on government measures to deal with the situation, Tabbaa said that Jordan is offering more facilities for investments and is subsidising exports in a bid to offset the negative effects of the slowdown.

The recent measures by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), the minister said, are part of the new moves to control the financial market and strengthen the economy. But one of the government's

priorities is to support and finance Jordan's agricultural processing industries and help them market their products.

Tabbaa revealed that the government is inclined now to reduce protection given to a number of industries and replace this method by imposing appropriate customs measures.

Protectionism was indeed a temporary measure to help industries grow and flourish, but the customs measures, while maintaining some kind of protection, will encourage local industries to improve the quality of products, Tabbaa added.

He said that the government will offer local industries generous assistance to help Jordanian products find their way to Arab and European markets.

But, he added, encouragement and support will first be given to small and medium industries.

Asked on Jordan's debts to foreign nations, the minister said they are within the "green margin" and Jordan continues to pay its dues on schedule to safeguard its credibility.

The minister denied rumours that the dinar will be devalued, and said that the government has never contemplated such an idea.

NRA explores south for uranium deposits

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Natural Resources Authority (NRA) is reportedly carrying out exploration work in a number of areas in southern Jordan in search of uranium.

A report in the Sawt Al Shaab Arabic newspaper said that potential areas were surveyed for the precious metal and samples were collected for laboratory tests.

The report said that NRA teams carried out surveys over a 500 square kilometre area which led to defining two specific areas with prospective finds — the first at the Lejoun region and the second at Bata Al Ghoul and Qweira districts.

Outing NRA sources, the paper said that geo-chemical studies are continuing in a number of regions.

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Saudi fisheries company profits \$8.8m

DAMMAM (OPECNA) — The Saudi Fisheries Company netted a profit of \$8.81 million in 1987 out of total sales revenues of \$42.19 million, according to figures released here. The company's latest bulletin said that a total of 8,206 tonnes of fish was caught last year, 91 per cent of which was consumed locally while the remainder was exported to markets in Japan, the United States and Europe.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Belgian Grand Prix halted as 2 riders crash

FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium (R) — The Belgian 250 cc motorcycle Grand Prix was halted Sunday after two riders crashed in the third lap. Italian Loris Reggiani and West German Martin Wimmer were taken to hospital but they were not thought to be seriously hurt and the race was later re-started. Italian doctor Antonio Di Fabio, who attended the accident, told Reuters Reggiani apparently suffered a fractured left foot while Wimmer had cracked a rib. "But of course there could be other injuries that we still don't know of," Di Fabio added. International jury member Wilfried Nantz said that Wimmer had fallen just before a chicane. "His bike hit the safety barriers and was catapulted back on the track," he said. "Reggiani, who was just behind Wimmer, could not avoid trouble." The Belgian Grand Prix was cancelled last year after safety improvements were not carried out in time. Several riders, including world 500 cc champion Wayne Gardner of Australia, said after practice here Friday and Saturday that the track was still dangerous.

American fails to set pole vault record

EUGENE, Oregon (R) — American Kory Tarpenning's victory in the pole vault with a clearance of 5.85 metres was among the highlights in the Prefontaine Classic Saturday night. Tarpenning, 25, failed in three tries at 5.97 metres, which would have bettered Joe Dial's American record of 5.96. Tarpenning, whose previous best was 5.80, moved into third place on the all-time U.S. outdoor list behind Dial and Earl Bell. Bell was second Saturday with 5.65 and Dial fifth on 5.45. World record holder Mary Slaney had little competition as she won the mile in 4:21.25, her first attempt at the distance since setting the world record of 4:16.71 nearly three years ago. American compatriot Lynn Nelson won the women's 5,000 metres with a 1988 world best of 15:12.7. It was a personal best by more than 17 seconds for Nelson.

Pritchard-Du Plooy fight ends in draw

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — James Pritchard of the United States and South Africa's leading heavyweight, Johnny Du Plooy, fought to a controversial 10-round draw Saturday night at Sun City. One judge gave the bout to Pritchard 97-96, but was outvoted by the two judges who rated the fight even, 96-96 and 95-95. The Independent South Africa Press Association (SAPA) said Pritchard controlled the fight throughout and that Du Plooy was awarded a "dubious draw." "On most people's scorecards... Pritchard had won all but the first and fifth rounds," SAPA reported. Even the partisan South African crowd booed the decision, believing Pritchard had outboxed Du Plooy. Du Plooy, 23, had been seeking a convincing victory to help him arrange fights in the United States against top-ranked boxers. Du Plooy now has a career record of 18-1-1. His only loss was to Mike Weaver of the United States last November. He avenged that defeat by knocking out Weaver in the second round in April.

Slagle wins Japan triathlon

TOKYO (AP) — American Susan Slagle won the first Japan Triathlon Championship Sunday, beating Ruth Hunt of Hong Kong by four minutes and 40 seconds. Slagle, a 24-year-old student at the University of Washington at Seattle, completed a 750-metre (835-yard) swim, a 20-kilometre (12-mile) bicycle race and five-kilometre (three-mile) run in one hour, 3 minutes and 17 seconds. Hunt's time was 1:07:57, and Lynn Cameron, 27, from Seattle, Washington, was third in 1:08:31. A total of 219 women, including four non-Japanese, competed in the triathlon. The fourth non-Japanese, J. Bobedun of Australia, was 66th with a time of 1:27:07.

Kookaburra wins 12-m World Championship

LULEA, Sweden (R) — Australia's Kookaburra III, with Peter Gilmour at the helm, won the World 12-member Yachting Championship Saturday with two faultless tactical wins over Japan's Bengal III.

Gilmour, tactician and starting helmsman in Australia's unsuccessful America's Cup last year, proved master of the light four-to-six knot winds off this northern Swedish port and led from start of finish in both races.

In the first heat of the best-of-three final, Gilmour had a better start than Bengal helmsman Skip Lissiman and held off a strong gybing challenge on the second leg when Bengal came within just 37 seconds of Kookaburra.

The 27-year-old Gilmour pulled away and extended his lead in the last two legs, crossing the line one minute 56 seconds ahead of Bengal.

Lissiman made another serious challenge for the lead against Kookaburra in the first stages of the second heat after both yachts got off to equal starts.

Bengal rounded the first mark only eight seconds behind Gilmour and was well-positioned for the first spinnaker run.

But the Kookaburra skipper took advantage of the slim lead to block the best line for Bengal, preventing the former Australia III from encroaching or from tacking into clear wind on the third leg. The Kookaburra lead lengthened in the second half of the race, allowing Gilmour to take the finishing gun a full 2:25 ahead of Bengal.

His victory was saluted by more than 1,000 spectator-carrying boats crowding the waters of the gulf of Bothnia, just south of the Arctic circle.

Saturday's victory means that Kookaburra went through the entire match race section of the championship with nine straight wins and not a single defeat.

Gilmour also won three of the seven fleet races which comprised the first section of the competition.

His victory confirms his billing as one of the world's best tacticians on any class of yacht, but particularly at the helm of a 12-metre boat, considered yacht-racing's Formula One category.

1990 World Cup finals to start one day early

ZURICH (R) — Argentina will kick off the 1990 World Cup soccer finals in Italy a day earlier than previously planned, according to a match schedule agreed by the International Football Federation (FIFA) last Wednesday.

The opening game of the 52-match final series will begin in Milan at 1800 local time (1600 GMT) Friday June 8, 1990.

According to tradition Argentina, as defending champions, will be one team involved but their opponents will not be known until early in 1990 after the worldwide qualifying competition and the draw for the finals.

The opening game had earlier been scheduled for June 9, but bringing it forward one day — to make best use of the June 9-10 weekend when six other games will be played — extends the tournament to 31 days, two more than the 1986 finals in Mexico.

The 1990 World Cup is scheduled to end with the final at Rome's Olympic stadium at 2000 local (1800 GMT) on July 8.

FIFA's World Cup organising committee approved the playing schedule for the first phase of the 1990 finals, with 36 games taking place in 12 cities over 14 days from June 8.

But the venues for the second stage, semifinals and final remain to be confirmed. Italian Sports Minister Franco Carraro, the head of the local organising committee Italia '90, asked for — and received — five months grace to sort out where the later stages of the tournament will be played.

The Italians have to decide which eight of the current 12 cities will host matches after the first round.

The only fixed point is the final

in Rome, although that could be jeopardised if roofing is not constructed in time at the Olympic stadium.

Other factors include the building of a brand-new stadium in Turin, where three first-round matches are scheduled, and political rivalry between various cities.

A FIFA team will inspect the proposed venues in November and then decide the final playing schedule, officials said.

"FIFA will be very disappointed if Turin is not ready because it is a great football city," FIFA spokesman Guido Tognoni said.

He said that the schedule approved Wednesday was "the best calendar we've ever had" which would give all 24 competing teams the same amount of rest days between matches.

Cram strides to Dream Mile victory

OSLO (Agencies) — Britain's Steve Cram raced majestically to his fourth consecutive victory in the Bislett games Dream Mile Saturday in a year's best time of three minutes 48.85 seconds.

Cram, the European and Commonwealth champion, showed all the acute tactical acumen which also took him to the 1983 world title and 1984 Olympic silver medal when he sped through on the inside in the final stretch.

East German Jens-Peter Herold was second in 3:49.20, fellow-Briton Peter Elliott third in 3:49.22 and Somalia's world 1,500 metres champion Abdi Bile a well-beaten fourth in 3:49.40.



Steffi Graf W. Germany rejoices at Graf's victory

BONN, West Germany (AP) — West Germans rejoiced Saturday night over Steffi Graf's first Wimbledon tennis victory.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other federal officials sent congratulatory messages to Graf's home in Brühl, north of Bonn.

"I send you my most heartfelt congratulations," Kohl said in his telegram to Graf's family residence.

"You have come a giant step closer to a 'Grand Slam' with your newest success. Along with other tennis fans, I fervently hope that you succeed in achieving this goal," Kohl said.

Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann also sent his congratulations.

"Like millions of other people, I was thrilled by your perfect performance," Zimmermann said. "This was tennis as it should be."

He added, "with your victory over Martina Navratilova, you have conclusively proven that you are the world's No. 1 women tennis player."

Graf defeated Navratilova 5-7, 6-2, 6-1, ending her opponent's run of six consecutive Wimbledon women's singles titles.

West German media have been giving prominent play to the tournament.

"Steffi Graf has won the Wimbledon tennis tournament," a West German radio news announcer rejoiced Saturday after the game was over.

But many West Germans, Becker included, were confident Graf would be victorious.

The West German newspaper Bild quoted Becker as saying before Saturday's women's match: "Steffi is going to win the final. There's no doubt about it."

Prost overwhelms Senna to win French Grand Prix

LE CASTELLET, France (Agencies) — Frenchman Alain Prost extended his World Championship lead to a commanding 15 points with a thrilling victory over his McLaren teammate Brazilian Ayrton Senna in the French Grand Prix Sunday.

In front of an ecstatic home crowd at the Paul Ricard circuit, Prost led for the first 36 laps, recovered his lead after 61 and drove on to an exciting victory.

His win ended Senna's hopes of a hat-trick of victories following his successes at the Canadian and Detroit Grands Prix.

It was Prost's fourth victory of the season and a record 32nd of his career.

Prost covered the 80 laps on the 3.813-kilometre (2.369-mile) in 1 hour, 37 minutes, 37.328 seconds. He averaged 187.48 kph (116.496 mph) for the 305.040 kilometres (189.30 miles).

The Frenchman was the pole sitter and held the lead for the first 36 laps but lost it after tire changes to Senna.

However on the 61st lap he took advantage of lapping cars and passed Senna when the Brazilian was slightly blocked by Italian Pierluigi Martini.

Prost darted inside on a curve and took the lead. He stretched it slightly to 2.62 seconds after 74 laps.

However Senna eased off the accelerator and dropped further behind after that, the margin growing by seconds in the last five laps.

The McLaren-Hondas have won all seven Formula One races this year with Prost taking four and Senna the other three. It was the fifth one-two finish for the McLaren team in either order.

The McLaren duo, who have turned this year's title race into a private affair, recorded their fifth one-two finish of the year on a hot afternoon in the south of France.

Italian Michele Alboreto took third place in a Ferrari ahead of his teammate Austrian Gerhard Berger, but neither was ever able to raise a challenge to the all-conquering McLarens.

World champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil finished fifth in a Lotus and Italian Alessandro Nannini took sixth position in a Benetton, the only normally-aspirated finisher in the top six.

Lendl still believes he can scale Wimbledon mountain

LONDON (R) — Ivan Lendl still believes he can climb his Wimbledon mountain. Martina Navratilova is uncertain whether she can scale the heights again.

The two tennis superstars, both born in Czechoslovakia but who have made their homes in the United States, have experienced vastly differing fortunes at the world's oldest and most famous tournament.

Lendl, 28, world number one since September 1985, has never managed to win here, losing in the final in 1986 and 1987 and going out in the semifinals in 1983, 1984 and again this year.

Navratilova, on the other hand, has been women's champion eight times and would have made that a record nine singles titles had she not lost in three sets, to West German Steffi Graf in Saturday's final.

Navratilova, 31, had several opportunities in the interview room after that defeat to commit herself to coming back to Wimbledon next year. But she pointedly avoided them all.

"We'll see how my body holds up. It's hard to predict," said Navratilova, whose 17 Grand Slam titles put her fourth in the

all-time list behind two other Americans, Chris Evert (18) and Helen Wills Moody (19), and Australia's Margaret Court (26).

Is this the end of an era? "It's hard to put any exclamation points behind any era but Steffi's number one and has been for over a year, so this is definitely the end of a chapter. I don't know (if I can come back here again). If I'm healthy I can win but it's hard for me to think that far ahead right now."

She said she would love to return and break the record of eight titles which she holds with Moody but "I certainly wouldn't feel any shame for not breaking it. Eight isn't so bad, you know."

"I'm thrilled to be up there. I'd be thrilled at seven," she said. "Many people dream of just one, so I don't want to be too greedy. I would love to win one more time but I will certainly be in no way disappointed when my career is over if I never break it. It's just a great honour to be part of it."

Lendl still yearns to be a part of it. In his seven Wimbledon appearances since 1981, he has always been among the top four seeds and was seeded to win the title in 1986 and 1988.

He refuses to accept the view that he will never win here. "If you get this close so many times, you have to believe that you can win," he said after his semifinal defeat by Boris Becker Saturday.

His 72 tournament victories — the last one was the Italian open in Rome in May — do not include a single one on grass and his grasscourt game suggests he plays on the surface out of a sense of

duty rather than pleasure.

"Why does he struggle on grass? 'It's because of the way my game is set up,'" he said. "My game is set up with aggressive groundstrokes and not coming to the net until later in the rally."

"On grass courts you can't do it because the bounce is uneven and you have to come in immediately."

Lendl said that although he failed to make the final this year: "I thought I played better than last year and I'm sure when I look back at it, I'm not going to be disappointed as last year."

Asked what made Becker such an outstanding grasscourt player, Lendl said: "Obviously the way he serves and the way he attacks your serve because he puts a lot of pressure on your serve. He just hits the ball as hard as he can on your serve and he is able to do it. It's one thing to hit the ball hard and another to hit it hard and consistently well."

Although he overpowered Lendl in beating him in the semifinals Saturday, Becker also believes the Czechoslovak can win Wimbledon.

"He has reached the final twice and a couple of times the semifinals, so he's a good player — even on grass," Becker said. "I think he can win it. It's just a matter of putting it together on that day. He had had luck in 1986 and 1987 with two players (Becker himself and Cash) who had the day of their life."

"If you are good enough to make it to the semis every year, and also to the finals, you can win it too."

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

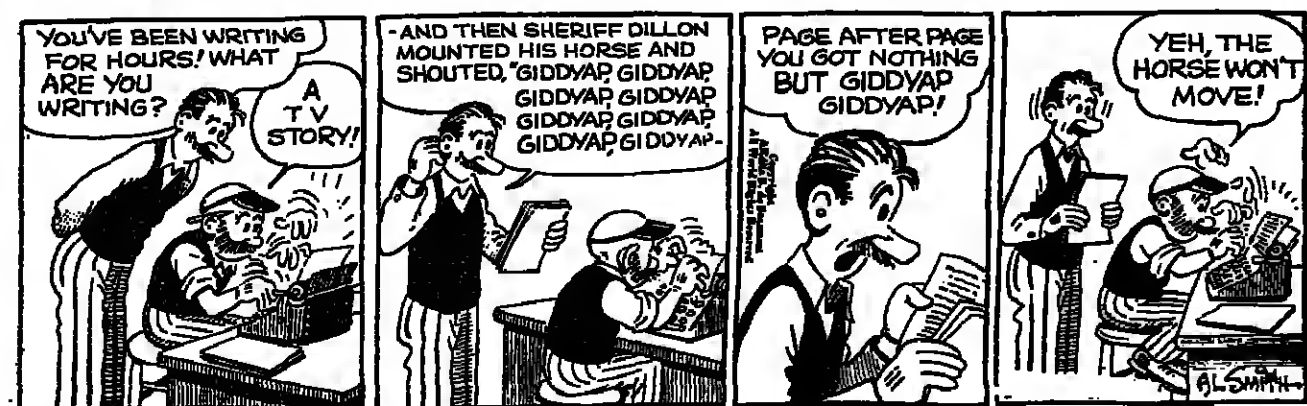


"The laundry may smell like onions for a while. I used the clothes dryer to toss a big salad."

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



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- The road project is partially financed from the proceeds of the Japanese fund (OECE).
- The project comprise three tenders, the scope of work consists of the rehabilitation and reconstruction of bases and pavements of a two-lane road including shoulders, drainage and ancillaries.
Tender A: km. (0 to 47) plus 4 km. connection.
Tender B: km. (47 to 107)
Tender C: km (107 to 166)
- Price of each tender copy JD (400) / per section, as a non-refundable amount.
- Last date for purchase of tender copies is July 31.
- Award shall be one tender for any individual contractor, after obtaining the combination for the three tenders that results in the least outcome in total amount.
- Site visit is scheduled on July 29th.
- Tenders shall be submitted before 1:30 afternoon on Aug. 10, 1988 at the Government Tenders Directorate.

Chairman, Central Tenders Committee
Director, Govt. Tenders Directorate.

INVITATION TO TENDER
Tender Number: JCO/EIB/APP/88.05
Jordan: Supply of Equipment for Sheep Fattening/Service Centres
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Jordan Co-operative Organisation (JCO)
Supply of Housing and Equipment for Animal Production Project.

The Jordan Co-operative Organisation (JCO) is publishing an invitation to tender for the supply and erection of prefabricated buildings, equipment and supplies for three sheep fattening and service centres in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. This announcement forms part of a project, and comprises of a total of three centres due to be implemented before July 1988 at Kerak, Tafila and Azraq.

- The following lots will be required for each site:
- Lot 1: Prefabricated buildings to include 2 sheep sheds 108 x 12 m, office/storeroom unit and a handling system (dip, race, ramps, etc.).
 - Lot 2: Range of sheep handling equipment.
 - Lot 3: Feed store and feed handling equipment to include 2 x 250 ton silos.
 - Lot 4: Range unit equipment.
 - Lot 5: Range of office equipment and tools.
 - Lot 6: 4 mobile sheep handling systems.
 - Lot 7: 40 feed troughs and 40 water troughs.
 - Lot 8: 1 flat deck truck, single cab, 2 wheel drive, long wheel base, four cylinder diesel engine.
 - Lot 9: Veterinary products.
 - Lot 10: Medication feedstuffs.

Participation is open to all individual and business entities from at least the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and member countries of the EEC.

Tender documents with instructions to bidders and detailed technical specifications can be obtained from:

The Director General
Jordan Co-operative Organisation
P.O. Box 1343
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Tlx. 21835 ALOUN JO

Presentation
All bids must be submitted in English by 10.00 hours local time on the morning of the 14 of September 1988, to the Office of the Director General of the Jordan Co-operative Organisation.

Opening of bids will be as a public opening session at the Offices of the JCO in Amman at 10.00 a.m. local time on the same day as final submission of tenders. All tenders must be on an open tender basis and shall be valid for 90 days from the final day of submission.

Criteria for selection: in addition to purchase price, criteria such as technical quality, delivery dates and service back-up will be taken into account.

NOTE:
Supplies submitted to this bidding procedure are part of an investment project financed with assistance of the European Investment Bank.

Kampuchea peace at centre stage of ASEAN meeting

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Ridding Kampuchea of the Vietnamese and Khmer Rouge likely will dominate discussions this week among 15 foreign ministers and other senior officials from Asia, North America and Western Europe.

The meetings, which begin in Bangkok Monday, come after Vietnam began a partial withdrawal of 50,000 troops from Kampuchea last week amid fears that a power vacuum in that country could be filled by the Khmer Rouge guerrillas.

They precede so-called "cocktail party" talks in Jakarta next month aimed at finding a political solution to the conflict in Kampuchea that began nearly a decade ago when Hanoi's forces invaded that country.

The Kampuchean problem is likely to be dramatized by the presence at some of the meetings of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the charismatic leader of a three-

party anti-Vietnamese coalition that includes the Khmer Rouge. In recent days, Sihanouk has visited his followers along the Thai-Kampuchean border from where guerrilla strikes into the interior are launched.

The six foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will hold their 21st annual meeting through Wednesday. It will be followed by the dialogue sessions between ASEAN and its close supporters from six countries and the European Community.

Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman Saroj Chavanaviraj has said that besides Kampuchea, other issues on the agenda include In-

dochinese refugees; a multi-lateral aid package for the Philippines; ASEAN strategy at this year's U.N. General Assembly session; and the role of the private sector in the region's economy.

Attending the dialogue will be U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz; Hans-Dietrich Genscher, West Germany's deputy chancellor; European Commissioner Claude Chysson; and the foreign ministers of Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and Greece, who are representing the EC along with Chysson. Papua-New Guinea is sending an observer.

ASEAN groups Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Singapore and the Philippines.

The officials are likely to review several recently suggested plans for peace in Kampuchea, including one from the Sihanouk-led coalition, China and the United Nations.



Anti-base demonstration in front of the U.S. embassy in Manila. The demonstrators criticised President Corason Aquino for not taking a stand on the future of the U.S. bases in the Philippines.

Filipinos press anti-bases drive

MANILA (AP) — About 1,500 leftists demonstrated Sunday near the U.S. embassy and handed over to a U.S. official a "symbolic" eviction notice for their military facilities in the country.

The demonstrators, chanting "Yanks go home" and "U.S. bases out," attempted to march to the seaside embassy, but riot police armed with clubs and shields halted them some 100 metres away.

Police allowed a 10-man delegation to go to the embassy to hand over a manifesto urging Washington to remove its six military bases here. A U.S. offi-

cial met the demonstrators at the gate to receive the document. "We, on this day which is incidentally the eve of American independence, demand, in behalf of the sovereign (Filipino) people, the dismantling of the U.S. bases in the Philippines," the document said.

Demonstrators burned an effigy of "Uncle Sam" and sang patriotic songs during the two-hour rally before dispersing.

The United States operates Clark air base, Subic Bay naval base and four smaller installations in the Philippines under a 1947 agreement that expires in

1991. In exchange, the Manila government receives about \$180 million annual aid.

Philippine and U.S. representatives are currently reviewing the agreement.

The talks have been bogged down on the issues of compensation and the extent of Philippine control over the bases, among others.

Philippine officials say Washington should increase its aid to the country for the remaining three years of the agreement. Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, who heads the Philippine panel, said before the talks began in April that \$1.2 billion a year was "realistic."

Philippine representatives also are demanding greater control over the bases. The current agreement allows the United States "unhindered operations."

Last month, the Philippine Senate approved a bill banning nuclear weapons and nuclear-powered ships and aircrafts from the country, but President Corason Aquino has not signed it into law.

U.S. officials have said they will abandon the bases if the bill is passed.

The United States maintains a policy of neither confirming or denying the presence of nuclear weapons in the bases.

Aquino has said she is keeping her options open on whether to renew the lease on the bases in 1991.

Japan ready to replace American presence in Asia

SINGAPORE (AP) — Japan's defence chief says his nation is willing to boost its investment and trade in southeast Asia to buttress stability in the event the U.S. scales back its military presence there, a Japanese official said.

Tsutomu Kawara, director general of Japan's defence agency, made the statement during a meeting Saturday with Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and Defence Minister Goh Chok Tong, the official said on condition of anonymity.

He said Kawara stressed Japan was willing to provide economic assistance to strengthen the stability of Southeast Asia after the two Singapore leaders expressed concern that the U.S. presence in the region might decline or become diluted for economic reasons.

"Japan can contribute (to stability in Asia) through economic means, thereby alleviating the United States presence here," the official said.

Kawara said Japan can provide the assistance to member countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations through increased investment and trade.

Last December, Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita unveiled a \$2 billion aid package for ASEAN nations, designed mainly to stimulate private investment in the region.

The programme includes a \$200-million private investment fund and low-interest loans to the ASEAN nations of the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, and Brunei.

Kawara said Japan does not want to become a military power again and noted its constitution forbids it to send troops abroad, the official reported.

Kawara arrived here Friday after holding talks with Indonesian leaders, and is scheduled to leave Monday for Hong Kong. He is touring the ASEAN nations to assure the leaders that Japan's increased spending for its military is strictly for defensive purposes.

ASEAN to call for urgent action on 'boat people'

BANGKOK (R) — South-east Asian foreign ministers meeting in Bangkok are expected to highlight the need for urgent international action to cope with the exodus of "boat people" from Vietnam, diplomats said Sunday.

Ministers from six-member Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) will press for an international conference to consider measures to deal with the continuing flow of refugees, the sources said.

They are likely to propose a new approach to dealing with the problem, including endorsement

of repatriation of those Vietnamese considered not to be political refugees, and the relocation of all refugees from the region in an island camp.

ASEAN officials said the ministers from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, would issue a joint statement at the end of their first day of formal talks Monday about the refugee problem.

ASEAN countries have begun closing their doors to the boat people 13 years after the end of the Vietnam war.

The flow of "boat people" tapered off from a high of 202,000 in 1979 when Vietnam invaded neighbouring Kampuchea to a low of 19,500 in 1986. It increased sharply again last year to 28,000 and has shown no sign of diminishing in the first half of 1988, according to figures from the U.N. High Commission for Refugees.

ASEAN ministers will discuss the issue with the grouping's so-called dialogue partners — the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the European Community.

Congress report criticises Justice Department laxness

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department failed to keep up with defence procurement fraud because it has a "lackadaisical, careless, hands-off management" approach, two Senators said in releasing a congressional report Saturday.

A Justice Department spokes-

man responded by saying congressional critics should "put their money where their mouths are." Spokesman Patrick Korten said the government accounting office report itself was "lackadaisical."

The report by the GAO, the congressional watchdog agency, said that the justice department doesn't know the status of many of its Pentagon fraud investigations because it does a poor job of keeping track of what its U.S. attorney offices are doing.

The GAO said that Attorney General Edwin Meese III should order a number of administrative changes to do a better job of overseeing investigations of the Defence Department.

The probe focuses on allegations that defence contractors and consultants, many of whom are former military men, bribed Pentagon officials for contracting details that could be vital in winning contracts worth billions of dollars. No one has yet been charged.

S. Africans fail to free jailed agents

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — South African commandos failed in an attempt to free four alleged South African agents from a maximum security prison here, security sources said Saturday.

The four whites are facing capital charges for alleged involvement in five attacks against the guerrilla-backed African National Congress (ANC) in Zimbabwe.

The security sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said an unspecified number of South African raiders planned to intercept a police convoy carrying the detainees from the Harare magistrate's court to Chikurubi maximum security prison 20 kilometres outside the Zimbabwe capital Thursday.

The commandos intended to use a stolen Zimbabwe air force helicopter to ferry the prisoners to an airstrip near the town of Kwekwe, about 200 kilometres southwest of Harare, where a Dakota aircraft was waiting to fly them to South Africa, the security sources said.

It was not immediately clear why the mission was aborted but the sources said weapons and tear gas grenades were found near the route to Chikurubi prison. The Dakota evidently left the airstrip near an iron and steel works carrying a pilot who flew a Zimbabwe air force Bell Agusta helicopter from Harare to Kwekwe and a second unidentified white man, the sources said.

The agents are charged under law and order regulations with involvement in five attacks against facilities in Zimbabwe of the ANC, the main guerrilla organisation fighting the white-dominated government in South Africa.

They were arrested after a car bomb demolished part of a house occupied by ANC officials in the second city of Bulawayo January 11.

The Zimbabwe government made no official comment Saturday on the aborted South African action.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Children hurt in Karachi blast

KARACHI, Pakistan (R) — At least 12 children playing on a Karachi garbage dump were injured when a crude home-made bomb exploded, police said. They said one child picked up a metal object and was playing with it when it exploded. Four of those wounded by the Saturday night blast were in serious condition, doctors said.

China announces new rocket

PEKING (AP) — China says it has added a new, more powerful rocket to its successful long March series with which it hopes to snare more foreign satellite customers. The new long March 4 has a propelling power of 300 tonnes and the capability of putting a 2.5-tonne payload into orbit, the official Xinhua news agency said late Saturday. Aeronautics officials hope the new rocket will help attract more foreign customers for China's nearly 3-year-old satellite launch service, which despite cut-rate prices has only one customer under contract. China has launched 22 of its own satellites in the past 18 years using the long March 1, 2 and 3 rockets.

Jayewardene says killer to try again

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene said a suspected Marxist who tried to kill him last August had admitted guilt and would like to try again. "The young man who tried to kill me, the prime minister and other government parliamentarians has admitted to the crime. He has said he would do it again if given the chance," Jayewardene said. He was speaking at a book-launching ceremony Saturday. Jayewardene was unhurt in the grenade attack on a meeting of his ruling party in parliament.

Lockheed to sell planes to Ethiopia

ATLANTA (AP) — The Lockheed Corporation, is negotiating the sale of L-100 transport planes to Ethiopia, and the Red Cross is worried that the hunger-plagued nation could use the planes for military purposes. Joseph E. Dabney, a Lockheed spokesman in nearby Marietta, where the plane is manufactured, confirmed the company's negotiations with government-owned Ethiopian airlines. "We understand that they plan to open up an African cargo operation to airlift perishables such as fruits and vegetables from Africa to Europe, then haul consumer goods from Europe back to Africa," he was quoted as saying in Sunday's Atlanta Journal and Atlanta Constitution newspapers.

Gorbachev sends July 4th message

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev Sunday sent a message of greetings to President Ronald Reagan to mark U.S. independence day celebrations July 4, the official news agency TASS reported. It said the message wished the American people peace and well-being, adding: "The important and fruitful results of the summit meetings in Washington and Moscow show that the United States and the Soviet Union, despite existing differences, can interact for the good of peace and international security."

Gurkha leader pledges to halt violence

DARJEELING, India (R) — Militant Gurkha leader Subhas Ghising promised a halt to violence in the lush tea-growing Darjeeling hills of north-east India to facilitate talks on demands for an autonomous Gurkha state. Both Ghising and officials of the Communist West Bengal government which rules the region expressed pessimism whether agreement could be reached to halt a two-year campaign that has cost over 350 lives and damaged the economy. Police reported militant attacks on government and police offices and a failed attempt to rob a bank. Ghising returned to Darjeeling Saturday from peace talks in New Delhi with West Bengal refusing to compromise on the demand for a Gurkha state.

Saudis adopt African children

JIDDAH (AP) — Saudi Arabian families were reported Friday to have adopted 130 African children in a revival of the old Islamic tradition of sponsoring orphans. Sharifuddin Mukhtar, representative of a prominent religious organisation called the Islamic Daawa, said the children were from 12 African countries, namely Sudan, Uganda, Senegal, Mali, Somalia, Chad, Tanzania, Kenya, Djibouti, Mauritania, the Republic of Central Africa and Gambia. Most of these countries are caught in natural disasters or civil and border wars. In statements in the English-language newspaper Al-Ahram which is published in this Saudi Red Sea port city of Jiddah, Mukhtar said that the children were temporarily in the care of the African Philanthropic Society and would join their new homes soon.

Madonna may play "Evita"

LOS ANGELES (R) — Oscar-winning director Oliver Stone is discussing with Madonna the possibility of her taking the lead role in the film version of the hit British musical "Evita", a spokesman for the project said Friday. There had been speculation in the trade press that the pop music idol had already been cast in the role, but the spokesman said: "nothing has been set." Barbra Streisand and Olivia Newton-John have also been listed among the favourites to star in the musical biography of Eva Peron, the former first lady of Argentina. "Evita", which has a score by Andrew Lloyd Webber, was a huge success on Broadway and the London stage. It would be the biggest film role so far for Madonna, who previously appeared in "Desperately Seeking Susan" and "Who's That Girl?" Stone is best known for the Vietnam war film "Platoon", for which he won a best director Oscar.

Taking it off 432 times in 72 hours

LOS ANGELES (R) — A taking it off 432 times in 72 hours, a pair of strippers Saturday claimed a place in the Guinness Book of World Records. Delane Ballot, 22, and Newcomb Munt, 28, began their bump-and-grind marathon in a Hollywood store window Wednesday, shedding several different outfits as they stripped to their undergarments. If their feat is not surpassed by September, they will make next year's Guinness list of records as its first striptease entry. "We are the pioneers," said an exhausted Munt, who, with his female partner Ballot strips for a singing telegram company.

Roars of passion arouse anger

VERONA, Italy (R) — The nightly sex play of Tarzan and Sultan and their partners has drawn complaints from residents of this city of love, setting of William Shakespeare's tragedy "Romeo and Juliet." The two are male lions, star attractions of the American circus based in this north Italian city, and they spend much of the night roaring appreciation of their harem of females. "We're not on a safari to Kenya — we need rest," declared a petition delivered Friday by families living near the circus in protest at the noise. "The animals are having sex all night ... you should hear the noise," said local resident Anna Della Vecchia. The circus owners, who use Verona as a base when they are not travelling around Europe, said the land had originally been chosen for the animals because it was not near houses.

Smurf, Smurfette 'are farm animals'

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — Smurf the miniature horse, his girlfriend Smurfette and tiny Moo Moo the cow are farm animals, not pets, a court decided in fining the owner \$189 for harbouring livestock. "You call this a farm animal?" asked Calvin Coolege Lynn, gesturing to his 38.6-kilogram Smurf. "My whole three animals wouldn't make up half a horse. Man has bred these horses down for house pets like they do poodles." But municipal court commissioner William Brigrance found the 63-year-old Lynn guilty of three counts of harbouring livestock in areas zoned for human habitation. City animal control director Ruben Mora testified during the 20-minute trial that without the ordinance, there would be "goats, roosters, chickens, rabbits and ducks. There would be livestock all over the city."

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JULY 4, 1988

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Wright Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today there may be much confusion in the environment, so use care in planning, and do not be too changeable in your ideas and modes of procedure. Avoid arguing with companions.

ARIES (Mar. 19 to Apr. 19) Take care of personal affairs before setting out in the world today. Try to be more lenient with your mate. Try to remain cheerful despite problems.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You must work hard today to convince friends of the worth of a project that means a great deal to you. Your plans warrant explanation, not apology.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Colleagues are not in a receptive mood, so don't ask for favors. Work as independently as possible, for now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Enjoy yourself today, but plan your activities in detail. Keep your mate's demands in perspective, but don't ignore them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Home and family prove most enjoyable today. Your recent shining accomplishments make this a great time to work on intimacies that have been neglected.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Follow your instincts today. See only those who you most want to see. Take time out to answer correspondence that has been neglected.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Plan a fine, intimate family dinner. You can benefit your position today by examining your relationships and studying your practical interests.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You may be doing too much daydreaming today, but it is not the time for it. Indulge those around you. Make this a memorable day.

VERO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 23) Ask questions of a partner in order to

avoid arguments later. Know what others expect of you and level with them about what you can do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) Make your environment more charming and comfortable. Avoid conflict. Spend a quiet evening at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Enjoy yourself today, but plan your activities in detail. Keep your mate's demands in perspective, but don't ignore them.

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THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jergensen

ACROSS

- 1 Mild oath
- 5 Shoot the breeze
- 9 Put away
- 14 Melange
- 15 Swain
- 16 City on the Po
- 17 Hamilton is on them
- 18 Circus performer
- 19 Stop
- 20 Planes do
- 21 Bumpin'
- 22 Lively dance
- 23 Joanne of the movies
- 24 Pale
- 27 Words to music
- 32 Lesson
- 35 Chair
- 39 USSR sea
- 40 Planes do
- 41 None such
- 44 Pale
- 45 Moved gently
- 46 Rill
- 48 Kim abbi
- 50 Not as much
- 53 Kubik Khan's land
- 58 Actors do
- 62 Story
- 63 Pile
- 64 Snell — (be leery)
- 65 Ledger entry
- 66 Sound
- 67 Scratch out
- 68 Foels
- 69 Meat
- 70 Ventilator

DOWN

- 1 Must
- 5 Nifty city
- 9 Kitchen necessities
- 4 Bible book
- 5 Treasury chest
- 6 Mole
- 7 Go on — (careless)
- 8 Macbeth's life
- 9 "Oll in the — night"
- 10 Sandwich fish
- 11 Alp, seagull
- 12 Peg
- 13 Camp, pl.
- 14 More mature
- 22 Gr. letter
- 23 USSR range
- 24 — avls
- 29 Rainbow
- 30 Spelunker's milieu
- 31 Coastier
- 32 Fusses
- 33 Inclination
- 34 Mimic
- 35 Biblical weed
- 37 Car, prov.
- 38 Regurg
- 41 Less wild
- 42 Unbend
- 43 Hikes aware
- 49 Eng. cathedral
- 50 Iwan
- 51 Epstein and smelling
- 52 Pry
- 54 Approaches
- 55 Nimp
- 56 Certain
- 57 Absolute
- 58 Other
- 59 Snout
- 60 Having pedal
- 61 digite
- 62 Sp. lady
- 63 Craze

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS: 1. MILD, 5. SHOOT, 9. PUT, 14. MELANGE, 15. SWAIN, 16. CITY, 17. HAMILTON, 18. CIRCUS, 19. STOP, 20. PLANES, 21. BUMPIN', 22. LIVELY, 23. JOANNE, 24. PALE, 27. WORDS, 32. LESSON, 35. CHAIR, 39. USSR, 40. PLANES, 41. NONE, 44. PALE, 45. MOVED, 46. RILL, 48. KIM, 50. NOT, 53. KUBIK, 58. ACTORS, 62. STORY, 63. PILE, 64. SNELL, 65. LEDGER, 66. SOUND, 67. SCRATCH, 68. FOELS, 69. MEAT, 70. VENTILATOR.

DOWN: 1. MUST, 5. NIFTY, 9. KITCHEN, 4. BIBLE, 5. TREASURY, 6. MOLE, 7. GO, 8. MACBETH, 9. OLL, 10. SANDWICH, 11. ALP, 12. PEG, 13. CAMP, 14. MORE, 22. GR, 23. USSR, 24. AVLS, 29. RAINBOW, 30. SPELUNKER, 31. COASTIER, 32. FUSSES, 33. INCLINATION, 34. MIMIC, 35. BIBLICAL, 37. CAR, 38. REGUR, 41. LESS, 42. UNBEND, 43. HIKES, 49. ENG, 50. IWAN, 51. EPSTEIN, 52. PRY, 54. APPROACHES, 55. NIMP, 56. CERTAIN, 57. ABSOLUTE, 58. OTHER, 59. SNOUT, 60. HAVING, 61. DIGITE, 62. SP, 63. CRAZE.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NUEQE

BEATA

YARNTT

TUFILE

WHAT AN ELUSIVE BUTTERFLY IS APT TO DO.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: DAILY CRANK BELLOW LOCATE

Answer: How do they know when all the bakers have arrived at work? THEY HAVE A "ROLL" CALL